Hafa Adai!

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Saipan's first mayor, Francisco M. Diaz, passes away. PAGE 5
Public's help sought in solving Kiosku burglary. PAGE 6

Tropical storm watch in effect

A tropical storm watch is now in effect for Rota, Tinian, and Saipan, with Tropical Depression 26W expected to intensify and become a tropical storm this morning.

Tropical storm conditions, including damaging sustained winds of 40 mph or more, are possible in the next 48 hours, according to the CNMI Homeland Security and Emergency Management.

As of 7pm last night, the center of Tropical Depression 26W was located about 140 miles south-southwest of Rota, 210 miles south-southwest of Tinian, and 220 miles south-southwest of Saipan.

Tropical Depression 26W is moving west-southwest at 13 mph. It is expected to slow down, turn toward the west, and move slowly to the

See STORM on Page 4

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OPINION METER
This week's poll:

Do you understand what the federal government shutdown is about?

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INSIDE

NATION

A veteran of the Afghanistan war is presented with the Medal of Honor.

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WORLD

Hundreds of people are dying in military detention in Nigeria.

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LIFE & STYLE

Eleanor Catton wins Britain's Booker Prize for "The Luminaries."

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PACIFIC CENTURY FELLOWS PROGRAM HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

Former Honolulu mayor Mufi Hannemann, right, gestures as he talks to some House members yesterday afternoon on Capital Hill about the Pacific Century Fellows Program that he founded, urging their participation in the establishment of a Marianas Chapter. Also in photo are Rep. Ray Tebuteb (Ind-Saipan), left, and Tan Siu Lin Foundation manager Maggie S. Sablan, center. The Pacific Century Fellows Program, which develops leaders with a greater awareness and sensitivity to people and institutions of Hawaii, brings together dozens of the most promising individuals from all walks of life, fields, and professions and the same could be done in the Marianas soon.

Hitch snags Fund's $40M disbursement

» House, Senate on standby should resolution needs amendment

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

No checks and direct deposits—totaling over $40 million—will be released today to defined benefit plan members, touching off another round of finger-pointing that blames the NMI Retirement Fund, the Legislature, the federal court, plaintiff Betty Johnson, or the Inos administration for the delay.

RELATED NEWS
➤ With zero pension, lawsuit in the works. PAGE 4

At issue is a lack of "notification" from the court that says "legislative action" under the settlement agreement had

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Philippine quake damages historic churches

By KIKO ROSARIO
ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOON, Philippines (AP)—The earthquake that struck the central Philippines and killed at least 144 people also dealt a serious blow to the region's historical and religious legacy by heavily damaging a dozen or more churches, some of them hundreds of years old.

RELATED NEWS
➤ Death toll in Philippine quake climbs. PAGE 16

As rescuers reached some of the hardest hit areas on Wednesday and the death toll from the quake a day earlier continued to rise, images of the wrecked religious buildings resonated across a nation where 80 percent of the population is Catholic.

The bell tower toppled from Cebu city's 16th-century Basilica of the Holy Child—a rem-

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A crane sifts through the rubble of the damaged Our Lady of Assumption Parish church following a 7.2-magnitude earthquake, at Dauis in Bohol, central Philippines, Tuesday Oct. 15, 2013. AP

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Local

Mount Carmel celebrates Cultural Day

PHOTOS BY THOMAS MANGLONA 11

Sophomore Lance Deleon Guerrero, dressed in a Greek toga, and Junior Savannah Delos Santos, portraying the image of Cleopatra, pose for a photo during the Cultural Day celebration at Mount Carmel School.

First grade students sing an original German song in English to open up performances for MCS' annual Cultural Day.

4th grade students perform a cultural New Zealand chant, covered in cultural face paint markings.

By THOMAS A. MANGLONA II
CORRESPONDENT

"It is important to celebrate culture because it reminds us of the different people that live in the world and we all should respect them."

These wise and moving words came from 4th grade Mount Carmel School student Kiana Propst during the school's Cultural Day celebration on Tuesday, Oct. 10, 2013.

Celebrating cultures ranging from Classical Greece and Ancient Rome to Korea and Japan, over 200 students at Mount Carmel spent the whole day on Tuesday recognizing and celebrating cultural diversity on Saipan and across the globe.

"Cultural diversity is a great thing and it is great to celebrate but it's also hard, tough, and not easy," MCS president Galvin Deleon Guerrero said in his opening remarks. "The hard thing about diversity, if we really want to be honest about it, is that when we don't understand someone, when someone is new and different, sometimes we don't understand them, and we fear them and are mean to them."

"If we want to truly celebrate diversity, it is not just about being proud about who you are, it's about respecting differences. Respecting someone who is not like us," Guerrero added. "Diversity is something we should celebrate every day. Not just today. So respect and help others."

Students participated in various sports and games but spent most of the day learning about the many cultures that exist in today's society by displaying their assigned culture through food, art, and music.

MCS' Student Council organized the annual event and student council president Ginny Wu hopes the students learned to have more respect and interest for other cultures because of the day's activities.

"Looking at it now, everyone's spirits are up," Student Council vice president Andrea Manese said. "We hope that this spirit for cultural diversity continues throughout the school year and beyond."

Elementary students show pride for their assigned class culture by waving Japanese flags early in the morning before the commencement of the day's activities.

STUCO vice president Andrea Manese, left, and STUCO president Ginny Wu open Tuesday's celebratory activities.

MCS president Galvin Deleon Guerrero addresses students during his opening remarks.

An elementary student, dressed as a ninja, poses for the audience before ending his class' cultural performance.

Fourth grade student Kiana Propst, center, and her classmates perform a New Zealand chant and dance.

Parents pose for a photo while watching the performances.

Federal court will remain open despite US govt shutdown

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona has ordered the continued operation of the U.S. District Court for the NMI for the duration of the federal government shutdown.

In a general order on Tuesday, Manglona directed the General Services Administration, Federal Protective Service, and the U.S. Marshals Service to maintain all functions necessary for the continued use of all U.S. District Court facilities in the NMI.

Manglona

Pursuant to Manglona's order, the court and the clerk's office will continue to perform essential functions with staff reporting to work.

The federal court's website announced that the court will adhere to its published calendar for criminal and civil cases, although the court may show flexibility when warranted by circumstances.

"Certain administrative functions and services, which are not case related, may be affected," according to the court announcement.

The federal court's website earlier announced that the federal judiciary will remain open for business for approximately 10 business days and that it will reassess the situation by Tuesday, Oct. 15, as a result of the first U.S. government shutdown in 17 years.

Manglona's general order adopts plan for operating in the absence of an appropriation or continuing resolution.

"Essential judicial branch activities will continue. The activities set forth in this plan, and the employees who perform them, are essential," Manglona said.

She said the court will continue to hear and decide cases; process all filings, motions, orders, emergency applications and other litigation documents; collect and deposit fees and costs in the Treasury; accept and process new civil and criminal cases; continue regular administration of the jury system; and issue and enforce judgments.

"Judges will continue to work full-time," Manglona said.

She said the judge's chambers staff such as law clerks and judicial assistant are essential to the resolution of cases. Probation and pretrial services officers, and administrative staff who make their work possible, will continue to supervise pre-trial releases, probationers and those on supervised release, she added.

Manglona said the clerk's office supports essential court functions and already operates with limited personnel who individually perform several roles while ensuring that proper internal controls and separation of duty requirements are met.

"Accordingly, all clerk's office employees are essential," said Manglona, adding that essential staff must report to their assigned duty stations during their normal work hours.

Manglona, however, ordered that travel that is not necessary for case resolution will not be undertaken without her approval.

Judge issues show-cause order vs King

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho has directed attorney Janet H. King, counsel for murder suspect Joseph A. Crisostomo, to explain why she should not be sanctioned for filing a motion that contained text that was allegedly copied without attribution to the source.

In an order to show cause yesterday, Camacho directed King to appear in court on Oct. 25 and explain a section of Crisostomo's motion to exclude evidence of prior acts.

"The purpose of this hearing is for the court to determine whether sanctions are necessary to ensure that Ms. King cease the practice of submitting filings composed of text that has been copied verbatim without attribution to the original source," the judge said.

Saipan Tribune emailed King for comments but she had yet to reply as of press time.

Camacho noted that paragraphs three through five of Crisostomo's motion were copied from the case in *People vs. Ewoldt*, 7 Cal. 4th 380 (1994). However, the judge said, King did not cite the California Supreme Court opinion as the source of that material.

Camacho said the standard articulated in the motion did not accurately represent the analysis employed by the California Supreme Court.

Camacho said that for the court to fulfill its duties, attorneys appearing before it must perform with competence, diligence, candor, and honesty.

The judge pointed out that the Model Rules of Professional Conduct require attorneys to represent their clients "with legal knowledge, skill, thoroughness, preparation, diligence and promptness."

King filed the motion last Aug. 30, three days after assistant attorney general James McAllister notified the court that he intends to introduce evidence at trial of Crisostomo's other "crimes, wrongs, or acts."

In that notice, McAllister said that Crisostomo, who is facing charges in the kidnapping and murder of bartender Emerita Romero, is also a suspect in the killing of Bao Ying Chen, a Chinese woman who was killed at Laulau Beach in November 2006.

King had opposed this, saying the government is attempting to identify the defendant as the culprit in this case by proof of his being an alleged suspect in a different murder of a woman in 2006.

With zero pension, lawsuit in the works

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Jess Taisague, 56, didn't get a pension check in the mail on Tuesday, the same check he had relied on for 15 years for food, medicine, and other needs as a government retiree. Now he's preparing to sue the CNMI government for diminishing and impeding his constitutional right to receive his pension.

"I lost my pension, I lost my health insurance," Taisague told *Saipan Tribune* yesterday.

Taisague is one of the 16 NMI Retirement Fund members who opted out of the settlement agreement in *Johnson v. Inos.*

Of this number, 13 are retirees and 12 of them didn't get a pension check or any source of income as of Tuesday and Wednesday.

The other retiree, Rep. Ray Tebuteb (Ind-Saipan), chose to receive his salary as an elected official so he still has a source of income.

The House Ways and Means Committee, meanwhile, is still reviewing a bill that would have funded the pension of those who opted out.

Rep. Mario Taitano (Ind-Saipan), author of the bill and a member of the Ways and Means Committee, said the appropriations bill would have set aside money to cover at least 75 percent of retirees' pension.

"They can't get more than what those in the settlement agreement is getting," said Taitano, chairman of the House Special Committee on Retirement Fund.

On Tuesday, retirees who had not opted out of the settlement deal started seeing a 25-percent cut in their pension checks.

And those retirees who opted out didn't get any check.

Taisague said yesterday he's been consulting with a lawyer.

"Like I said earlier, I have been weighing my option to bring a lawsuit versus the government for impairing my retirement benefit. I know that the governor made an irresponsible statement during a townhall meeting that if you opt out, you will be on your own. It is inevitable right now to assert my constitutional right," Taisague said.

Taisague worked in government for 23 years.

The Inos administration earlier said it understands that the 25-percent cut is a challenge for many, "but at least they are assured of a steady flow of income by way of the settlement agreement. The administration will continue its efforts to work with the Legislature to identify resources that can eventually be used to restore or make whole the retirees' pensions."

Those who opted out will need a separate legislative appropriation to fund their pension. There's none passed and signed as of yesterday.

QUAKE

From Page 1

nant of the Spanish colonial era and the country's oldest church building—becoming a pile of rubble in the courtyard by the front gate.

Other churches on the neighboring island of Bohol, epicenter of the quake and a popular tourist destination known for its beaches, were also damaged, some beyond repair.

"The heritage old churches are also very close to the hearts of the Boholanos," said Bohol Gov. Edgardo Chatto, using the term for residents of the island.

He said authorities would attempt to restore the historic churches, but some may never return to their former state.

"Every piece of the church should be left untouched so that restoration efforts can be easier," he said. "It may not be a total restoration, but closest to what it used to be before."

Emilia Dalagan was sweeping grass outside her home near the 300-year-old church called Our Lady of the Assumption Shrine in Dauis on the resort island of Panglao, near Bohol, when the ground shook.

"The funeral car was crushed by falling debris from the front of the church. The driver was able to get out," she said.

The back, front and the right wing of the church were destroyed. The structure is said to be made from corals cemented together with egg white.

Tuesday was a national holiday in the Philippines, incidentally celebrating the Muslim feast of Eid ul Adha, which meant some of the most damaged structures, like schools and office buildings, were empty when the quake struck, which saved many lives.

"That is our only consolation," said Bohol's provincial health officer Reymoses Cabagnot.

Gay Flores had just woken up in her two-story house in the town of Carmen when the 7.2-magnitude quake struck at 8:15 a.m., sending shock waves across the picturesque island -and knocking her off her feet.

"I crawled down to our kitchen because my mother and nephews were there," she said. "Then we crawled out of the house."

The roof of their house had caved in and the cement walls had collapsed, but she was alive, and so were her parents.

"We left everything behind," Flores said by phone from the Bohol town of Carmen. "Belongings don't matter as long as we can save our lives."

A day after the quake, Gov. Chatto said that all towns in need had been reached, although landslides and damaged bridges were slowing down road travel. Only two of the island's 20 bridges were passable.

HITCH

From Page 1

been met, the Fund and some lawmakers separately said.

Senate floor leader Ray Yumul (Ind-Saipan) said the Legislature has already done its part by adopting a joint resolution acknowledging and approving the settlement deal as required for the final disbursement of employee contributions.

"The way that the Retirement Fund made their statement is that they have not received official notification. They didn't say legislative notification through resolution. It means official notification from the court," Yumul told *Saipan Tribune.*

Yumul was the main proponent of a Senate substitute version of House joint Resolution 18-10 House Draft 1, Senate Substitute 1.

"It's in the hands of the federal court," Yumul added.

The House adopted the Senate substitute, and a copy was officially transmitted to parties last week.

As of last night, the Fund had yet to be notified by the court that such legislative action has been met.

Affected DB members and their families were not amused.

"Politics should not play a part here; people's livelihood is at stake. I hope the culprits won't be in office again," one of them said last night.

Provision in question

House Speaker Joseph Deleon Guerrero (Ind-Saipan) separately said that based on his communication with the Office of the Attorney General, plaintiff Johnson and her attorneys have concerns about a "be it further resolved" clause in the adopted resolution.

The speaker was referring to assistant attorneys general Reena Patel and Teresita Sablan, whom the House also consulted before acting on the Senate substitute resolution.

The specific clause in question states that the "Legislature preserves its sovereign rights under the Constitution and laws of the CNMI and the United States in approving parts of this Settlement Agreement in order to challenge the said Agreement in a court of law declaring any or parts of the Agreement invalid pursuant to Section 36.0 of the Agreement due to the said Agreement's coerciveness and the Agreement's attempt to extort the constitutional authority of the Legislature."

"The plaintiff's counsels feel that this provision kind of contradicts the resolution's intention to approve the settlement agreement," Deleon Guerrero told reporters.

Deleon Guerrero said the House leadership asked the OAG to send the House an official communication stating specific concerns about the adopted resolution.

Once this is done, the House stands ready to amend the resolution so as not to further delay the disbursements.

The speaker, however, pointed out that he does not agree with the plaintiff on this.

"A resolution has no force and effect of law, so it doesn't change the settlement agreement that has been signed and agreed to by both parties. So this clause doesn't change what has been agreed to," he said.

Even if the Legislature takes this provision out, it doesn't change "our position that the Legislature still preserves its rights under our laws and constitution," Deleon Guerrero said.

"But because this could drag on and go back into court and it could delay the issuance of the second batch, the remaining withdrawals, we may need to either do an amendment to the resolution to strike out this provision or introduce a new resolution absent this language just to kind of expedite the release of the funds," he said.

As of press time, the Legislature had yet to confirm whether it has received formal communication from the OAG or the administration.

Nevertheless, the speaker said the House stands ready to hold a session to amend the resolution or adopt a new one.

Yumul shares the same concern about a lack of an official communication either from the OAG, the plaintiff's lawyers, or the court that there is an issue about the resolution.

Retirement Fund

As of 2pm yesterday, the Fund said it had not received notification that House Joint Resolution 18-10, HD1, SS1 conforms with the requirement of "legislative action" under the settlement agreement, which the federal court approved and is part of a court order.

"The Fund will not—indeed, cannot—release Disbursements until it receives notice that there has been 'legislative action that conforms with the Settlement Agreement," the Fund said in a statement at 4:20pm yesterday.

Accordingly, the Fund did not upload direct deposit payments and is not going to be distributing checks as planned.

Disbursements would have started today. This means millions of dollars would have started circulating in the economy within days.

The Fund pointed out that it stands ready to release all disbursements via checks and direct deposits, pursuant to Public Laws 17-82 and 18-2.

"The Fund, however, cannot release the disbursements unless and until it receives notification that the settlement agreement's requirement of 'legislative action' is met. In other words, without such notification, releasing the disbursements violates a court order," it added.

The Fund said when it is able to release the disbursements, everyone will be informed through the media and the Fund's website.

Moreover, the pension agency reminded PLs 17-82 and 18-2 applicants that have not submitted their waiver to visit the Fund website and execute a waiver so that the Fund will be able to process their disbursement.

On Friday, the Fund announced that barring unforeseen circumstances, it plans to upload direct deposit payments yesterday and applicants can expect their employee contribution withdrawals to be credited to their bank accounts within 24 to 48 hours after upload.

This means by today or tomorrow, their bank accounts would have the remainder of their refunded contributions pursuant to PLs 17-82 and 18-2.

The Fund also initially planned to distribute checks to all applicants today and tomorrow on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota.

This week's disbursement would have come much earlier than initially expected, which is the first week of November.

During the settlement deal's preliminary approval, some $10 million was disbursed.

The remainder, or $42 million, of DB contributions from the Fund will be released after final approval of the settlement agreement and then after legislative approval.

STORM

From Page 1

north-northwest today, Thursday. Maximum sustained winds have increased to 35 mph.

Tropical Depression 26W is expected to produce strong winds over Rota in the next couple of days.

A wind advisory is now in effect until 6am Saturday. Winds of 25 to 35mph with gusts of up to 45 mph are expected through Friday night.

A wind advisory means that winds of 30 mph or more are expected. The public is advised to be cautious when driving, especially in high profile vehicles. Secure loose objects outdoors or bring them inside.

The U.S. Coast Guard Sector Guam is working with the governments of Guam and the CNMI, Joint Region Marianas, and port partners in response to the approaching storm.

Sector Guam has taken preemptive measures to ensure the safety of personnel and property as Tropical Depression 26W approaches Guam and the CNMI. U.S. Coast Guard Captain of the Port established Port Heavy Weather Condition Yankee for the Port of Guam in accordance with Title 33, Code of Federal Regulations, Part 160.111. Some of the measures listed under Yankee include commercial vessels 200 gross tons or greater en route to Guam being prohibited from entering the port and having to remain a minimum of 12 nautical miles offshore. Owners or operators of commercial and small passenger vessels must make preparations to secure their vessels at a safe facility or location.

Citizens of Guam and CNMI are advised that normal responses to emergency conditions may be limited or hampered because of hazardous weather conditions.

The CNMI Homeland Security and Emergency Management will be monitoring the movement of Tropical Depression 26W and will be issuing bulletins as they become available. The public is urged to continue to monitor the official bulletins that will be available through local media sources and NOAA weather radio broadcast on 162.5 megahertz, or call the CNMI EOC dispatch center at 237-8000 or 211, and for the Northern Islands to contact CNMI EOC dispatch center at high frequency single side band radio on frequency 5.205.0. ***(Saipan Tribune)***

PSS seeks help in keeping students safe

As a tropical storm warning is hoisted over the Marianas, the Public School System is urging the general public to assist the school district in keeping students safe going to and from school.

Classes for Rota's Dr. Rita H. Inos Junior and Senior High School, Sinapalo Elementary School, and Head Start centers have been temporarily suspended due to the threat of the tropical storm.

As of 7pm last night, the center of tropical depression 26W was located about 130 miles south-southwest of Rota, 195 miles south-southwest of Tinian and 210 miles south-southwest of Saipan.

Saipan and Tinian public schools remain open. However, PSS is urging parents and the community in general to be prepared with the onset of heavy sustained winds and rains, especially for students waiting for schools buses.

"I am asking the general public to help us keep our students safe as they wait for their buses at their stations to go to school and on their way home," Education Commissioner Dr. Rita A. Sablan said.

The education chief is asking parents and guardians of students to watch their children as they wait for school buses in going to school at every designated bus stops. At the same time students are strongly reminded to stay at the designated bus stops and bus shelters while waiting for their ride home after classes. ***(PSS)***

Saipan's first mayor, Francisco M. Diaz, passes away

By MARK RABAGO
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ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Francisco Manibusan Diaz, the first ever mayor of the Municipality of Saipan, passed away on Sunday at the Commonwealth Health Center. He was 77 years old.

His youngest daughter, Tricia, said her father died at 10:05pm on Oct. 13 due to cirrhosis, which is scarring of the liver and poor liver function. It is the final phase of chronic liver disease.

The elder Diaz, fondly known as Tico Bedu or Mr. D, was Saipan mayor from 1979 to 1981. Before becoming mayor, he was a congressman during the Trust Territory Government and was one of the trusted advisers and friends of the CNMI's first elected governor, Carlos S. Camacho.

Diaz was also a former president of the Rotary Club of Saipan and was very involved in community events. He also worked for Microl Corp., as its Commercial Division manager. Later, he would become the auto dealership's ombudsman, dealing with governmental and community relations.

According to Tricia, her father has been battling cirrhosis for a couple of years. His illness, however, took a turn for the worse six months ago and doctors at CHC gave him only him a month or so to live a couple of weeks ago.

With her dad's days numbered, Tricia said the family organized a farewell and reunion of sorts for the beloved patriarch of their family.

She said all 12 children of Francisco and Remedio Diaz, including a couple based abroad, came together to celebrate a family reunion last Oct. 8 and just this Saturday, Oct. 12, their parents celebrated their 52nd wedding anniversary.

While the family is understandably devastated by the loss of Diaz, Tricia said at least their dad is now in a better place and is no longer suffering.

Aside from public service and community work, Tricia said her dad's other passion was watching sports. She remembers one time when her dad was admitted at CHC when he suddenly left to watch a basketball game in Chalan Kanoa. After the game, her dad admitted himself back to the hospital.

She also remembers her dad as a kind and loving person who never fails to give good advice to her and her 11 siblings.

Microl general manager Douglas Brennan, meanwhile, said Diaz brought him under his wing when he first worked at the company.

"Frank was my mentor when I was first hired at Microl. His business acumen, patience, and outgoing personality were an inspiration to me. He taught me more about business and people in general than I could have ever learned at any college in the world," Brennan said.

Brennan also extended his condolences to the Diaz family. "My heart goes out to Bedu, the kids and grandkids. I am thankful Frank is resting now and am sure he is still watching over us. It was a privilege to know him!"

Diaz is survived by his wife, Remedio, and 11 children: Frances J, Francisco, Juan, Frances D, Joaquin, Raymond, Thomas, Anthony, Melissa, Tricia, Edward, and Deborah.

Man gets five years for stealing prosecutor's wallet, cell phone

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

A habitual offender who stole a prosecutor's wallet, cell phone, and keys from a Superior Court courtroom has been sentenced to a maximum of five years in prison in a bid to halt his streak of convictions.

Robert J. Palacios, 25, was given credit for time served. His release date is Jan. 3, 2018. He will then be placed on probation for five years.

According to Presiding Judge Robert C. Naraja, this is Palacios' eight adult conviction.

"This means that defendant is averaging more than one conviction a year. This is streak that cannot be allowed to continue," Naraja said.

Palacios was also required to pay a $500 probation fee and $100 court costs.

Naraja said that on top of the many crimes Palacios has committed in his short, seven-year adult life, he decided to disrespect the court, which has repeatedly tried and failed to help him, by committing a theft, on camera, in one of the courtrooms.

"To make it worse this crime was perpetrated against an officer of this court," the judge said in his order Tuesday.

The Office of the Attorney General charged Palacios with theft by unlawful taking or disposition and criminal contempt for stealing assistant attorney general Nicole Driscoll's wallet and other items from the courtroom on Dec. 5, 2012.

Palacios pleaded guilty to theft by unlawful taking or disposition as part of a plea deal. The other charges were dropped.

Assistant attorney general Jacinta Kaipat prosecuted the case. Attorney Colin Thompson served as counsel for Palacios.

Naraja found Palacios in violation of his probationary conditions and revoked his probation.

At the sentencing hearing last week, Naraja underscored Palacios' prior convictions and their seriousness.

Naraja also discussed his familiarity with the defendant when he was a minor, and expressed regret that the system had failed to rehabilitate him.

The judge noted that he had hoped that the birth of Palacios' first child would have inspired him to straighten up, but it has not.

IN JOHNSON CLASS ACTION

Woodruff: Not possible at this point to itemize time he spent

The local counsel for Betty Johnson, Stephen C. Woodruff, has submitted in federal court a summary of the time he spent working on Johnson's class action, but stated that it has not been possible at this point to detail all of the time he actually spent.

"Actual time spent is at least twice as much as set forth in the accompanying detail," said Woodruff.

This second declaration supports his petition for $1.01 million in attorney's fees.

Woodruff cited as an example his email account that reflects 794 email conversations relating to Johnson's case. Many of these conversations, he said, contain several emails, ranging from two or three to nine or more.

"Overall, in the course of my work on this case, I have sent and received more than 2,000 emails," he said.

Woodruff pointed out that only a relatively small fraction of these are reflected in his time summary.

The lawyer said if the average time per email is three minutes, the time spent on these emails alone amounts to 100 hours.

He also noted that since his entry into this case, more than 350 documents have been docketed, most of which he had reviewed.

Woodruff said he participated in the preparation of a large number of these filings.

"This entailed a significant commitment of time that also is only partially reflected in the accompanying summary," he said.

The lawyer reiterated his earlier claim that he has expended no less than 300 hours on behalf of Johnson and the class.

He believes the most appropriate basis for determining attorney's fees in this case is on a percentage of the benefit to the class. In his earlier declaration, Woodruff said the benchmark reasonable fee is 25 percent of the benefit to the class.

The issue on attorney's fees is currently before Hawaii chief bankruptcy judge Robert Faris. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

Collect stickers and
pick your favorite!
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1 sticker
2 stickers
3 stickers
GET QUENCHED
McCafé
Smiles
Mobil
Fuel up and be rewarded for your love of Smiles! From August 30, 2013 to October 24, 2013, every $20 gas or diesel purchase will get you one sticker. Collect stickers and save your receipts to redeem for your choice of a McDonald's® treat!
Just fuel up and swipe your Smiles Card today!
No. of Stickers On A Single Reward Card | Free McDonald's Prize
1 | Large Fountain Drink
2 | Small Frappe
3 | Big Mac® Extra Value Meal®
i'm lovin' it
Offer good from August 30, 2013 to October 24, 2013, or while reward cards & stickers supplies last. Reward cards are redeemable only with the corresponding number of Mobil gas receipts attached at any participating Saipan McDonald's restaurant from August 30, 2013 to November 24, 2013. Each reward card is valid for redemption of one McDonald's prize only. Not valid with any other McDonald's offer. Fleet Card members are not eligible for this promotion.
Mobil
We're drivers too.
Call our toll-free hotline at 1-866-486-7751 Monday through Friday from 10 am to 7 pm for more details.

Community's help sought in solving Kiosku burglary

A visibly exasperated Ramon B. Camacho appealed Tuesday night to the public to give law enforcement authorities information about Sunday's burglary at the Chalan Kanoa Kiosku.

The burglary comes only a couple of months after the Department of Public Safety and the Saipan Neighborhood Watch in Chalan Kanoa and Susupe launched a program at the site to increase police presence in the two villages, which DPS Commissioner James C. Deleon Guerrero acknowledged are the crime capitals of the islands.

Camacho, chairman of the Saipan and Northern Islands Municipal Council, said an employee discovered the burglary at the Kiosku storage room on Sunday morning, Oct. 13. Missing were a Craftsman leaf blower, a Kawasaki bush cutter, and a Shindaiwa weed cutter.

"One bush cutter was donated by Car Quest and cost about $700. The other bush cutter was purchased under the Municipal Council and it costs about $500. The gas blower costs about $400," said Camacho.

He said the burglar or burglars most probably came from the backside of the Kiosku. He said the Kiosku couldn't afford a security guard to man the $500,000 memorial to the island's leaders.

What infuriates Camacho more was that the burglars also vandalized the signage in front of the Kiosku. When *Saipan Tribune* passed by the memorial yesterday, the graffiti was already painted over.

"We are really trying out best. This time I would like to appeal to the community. I think we need a strong community support and let's work together and apprehend these burglars. Criminals won't do this in front of the authorities. But with the assistance of the community they can serve as their eyes and ears and get the information to us," said Camacho.

He said he first contacted DPS whose officers came down and investigated the area. Later, he contacted the Federal Bureau of Investigation since the money used to build the Kiosku was federal funds.

Camacho said he will work closely with the two neighbors of the Kiosku—Car Quest and Kevin's Store—to prevent the burglary from happening again.

He said he also visited a number of pawnshops Tuesday to see if their items had been pawned off.

The NMI Crime Stoppers is also seeking the public's help for the burglary and theft incident.

In a statement yesterday, it said an employee opened the locked door to the storage area on Sunday, Oct. 13, 2013, at about 7:30am and discovered the break-in.

The estimated amount of the stolen equipment is over $1,700. The sliding glass window to the storage room was broken and used as the point of entry of the suspect or suspects. The storage was secured the day before at about 5pm.

DPS said there was evidence left at the crime scene of muddy footprints, handprints on the walls, and broken sliding glass window with blood on it. Evidence shows the suspect or suspects scaled the southern wall to the memorial, gaining access into the compound and possibly cutting themselves on the broken window, leaving blood evidence.

DPS and Crime Stoppers need your help. Contact the Crime Stoppers hotline at 234-7272 should you want to remain anonymous or use our website at www.nmicrimestoppers.net Crime stoppers pays up to $1,000 for any information leading to an arrest. It pays to call. ***(Mark Rabago)***

House PUTC to PUC: Audit CUC before deciding on rate hike

» 'Paying consumers should not be penalized over $17M gov't debt to CUC'

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

House Public Utilities, Transportation and Communications chair Lorenzo Deleon Guerrero (Ind-Saipan) urged the three-member Commonwealth Public Utilities Commission yesterday to require audits first before even considering utility rate increases.

Deleon Guerrero said that paying consumers should not be penalized for the CNMI government's unpaid obligations to the Commonwealth Utilities Corp., amounting to $17 million to $18 million.

"The people have spoken that any rate increase would be devastating and detrimental to their livelihoods," he said in a letter to CPUC chair Joe C. Guerrero.

Deleon Guerrero reiterated his concerns during the House PUTC Committee's meeting yesterday afternoon with Guerrero and two other CPUC commissioners—David B. Guerrero and Oscar Quitugua—on a host of CUC issues.

Of paramount concern is CUC's proposed utility rate increases.

Deleon Guerrero said CUC should be audited first "and then determine if CUC is warranted a rate increase."

He said CPUC should thoroughly examine CUC's current finances, obligations, spending practices, wages, and earnings, among other things.

The freshman lawmaker said CUC consumers must be accorded complete understanding of the reasons why CUC is asking for a rate increase.

He said publication of the rate hike petition and public hearings must be held.

Deleon Guerrero, in an interview yesterday, said he is also drafting a bill that requires CPUC to have a management audit done on CUC.

Based on a petition filed in July, CUC proposes a rate hike on its electric base rate effective Oct. 1. A CPUC hearing has yet to be held.

CUC said it has been incurring operating losses amounting to $74 million since 2006.

SDA Clinic welcomes new orthodontist

On the same day that Dr. Earl Sablan Sauget was honored for 17 years of going back and forth to Saipan to offer orthodontic care, SDA Clinic finally welcomed Friday a permanent orthodontist on Saipan, Dr. Warren Creed.

"We're really thrilled that Dr. Creed is here. It's wonderful that he and his wife Eileen can join our team. We now have an actual specialist on Saipan and it doesn't have to come from Guam," said SDA Clinic director Kenneth D. Pierson.

Creed obtained his Doctor of Dental Surgery from Loma Linda University School of Dentistry in 1986. He practiced general dentistry for six years at the Adventist Medical Center in Okinawa, Japan, before returning to the U.S. to begin specialty training in orthodontics.

MARK RABAGO

From left, Dr. Warren Creed, Dr. Earl Sablan Sauget, and SDA Clinic director Kenneth D. Pierson.

He obtained a master's in Orthodontics and Dentofacial Orthopedics from Loma Linda University in 1994.

Following his specialty training, Creed established a very successful orthodontic practice for the Adventist Medical Center in Okinawa, where he was the director and chief orthodontist until 2010.

Most recently, Creed was the chief dental officer of Davis Memorial Hospital in Georgetown, Guyana. During his time in South America, Creed also was an instructor in orthodontics at the University of Guyana and Texilla-American University.

His predecessor, Sauget, only had kind words for Creed and is excited how his practice would make a big a difference on the island.

"Dr. Creed is a wonderful man. He's very knowledgeable about orthodontics. The quality of care that is provided will definitely improve. That's the nice thing about the history of the SDA Clinic here is the delivery of quality care has improved."

Creed and his wife arrived on Saipan last Sept. 30 and so far they really like what they've seen.

"The people here are extremely friendly and we like the nice island life. It seems more relaxed. I'm looking forward to working here."

"He's a well-experienced orthodontist with many years of experience. He will be Saipan's only specialist and everyday he will be here. I think it's wonderful that he is able to join our team and expand the services that we are able to provide," said Pierson.

Originally from Sacramento, California, Creed and his wife Eileen have three adult daughters: Mishaela, Ashley, and Keila. All live in the U.S. mainland. He enjoys kayaking, golf, and other outdoor sports. ***(Mark Rabago)***

NOTICE

TO: LEWIS T. AND MARY ANN TENORIO:

You are in default in your Promissory Note dated May 10, 2006, secured by a Leasehold Mortgage of the same date, executed and delivered by you to the BankPacific, Ltd.

(a) Description of the real property covered by Mortgage:

Lot 011 G 574, situated in Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, as more particularly described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 011 G 11, the original of which was recorded on December 3, 1993 as Document No. 93-4179 at the Office of the Commonwealth Recorder, Saipan.

(b)	Date and amount of Promissory Note and Mortgage:	May 10, 2006; $80,000.00
(c)	Amount due for principal:	$275.91 as of August 11, 2013
(d)	Amount due for interest:	$1,485.12 as of August 11, 2013
(e)	Daily accruing interest:	$16.336
(f)	Late charges	$70.50 as of August 11, 2013
(g)	Amount due for Escrow deposit:	$105.00

If the principal, interest, escrow payments, and late charges $1,936.53 as of August 11, 2013, plus accruing interest, together with reasonable attorney's fees, are not paid within thirty (30) days from the date of service of this notice upon you, you will be in default, and Court proceedings will be commenced against you to foreclose upon the said Mortgage because of the default.

Unless you, within thirty (30) days after receipt of this letter dispute the validity of the claim, or any portion thereof, we will assume that it is valid. If you notify us in writing within this thirty (30) day period that the claim, or any portion thereof, is disputed, we will obtain information on the debt and mail you a copy thereof. Upon your written request within this thirty (30)-day period, we will provide you with the name and address of the original creditor, if different form the creditor indicated above.

This letter is an attempt to collect a debt. Any information obtained will be used for that purpose.

Señot yan Señora Tenorio:

Ti un komple i kontratan debimu (Promissory Note) ni un fitma gi Mayo dia 10, 2006, ni afabobot i Mortgage ma asegurao i tano yan guma ni un empeña gi mismo dia, un fitma yan un entrega i empeña (Mortgage) guato gi BankPacific, Ltd.

(a) I deskripsion tano ni ma empeneň (mortgaged):

Sito Numera 001 G 574, ni gaigi Saipan, Note Marianas, mas patikulamente ma discribi gi Drawing/Cadastral Plat numero 001 G11, i orihinat ma rehistra gi fecha Disembre dia 3, 1993 komo Documento numero 93-4179 giya i Ofisinan Commonwealth Recorder, Saipan.

(b)	I kantida yan i fechan este na debi yan empepeña:	Mayo dia 10, 2006, $80,000.00
(c)	Kantida un dibi para principat:	$275.81 asta ki Agosto dia 11, 2013
(d)	Kantida un dibi para interes:	$1,485.12 asta ki Agosto dia 11, 2013
(e)	Interes kada dia:	$16.336
(f)	Apas pot atrasao (late charges):	$70.50 asta ki Agosto dia 11, 2013
(g)	Kantida un dibi para Escrow:	$105.00

Yangin ti un apasi i kantida na principat, interes, yan apas pot atrasao (late charges) $1,936.53, yan i resanable na apas abugado gi halom trenta (30) dias despues di i fecha ni un resibe este na notisia, un ma konsidera komo ti unkomple i kontratamu (default), ya siempre u-matutuhun kontra hago a kausan kotti ni para uma kondena ya uma dendi i propriadat tano'mu ni un empepeña guato gi BankPacific.

Solo yangin halom trenta (30) dias dispues de un resibe este na notisia yan un kontra minagahet-ña pot i apudera sino komo i pattida, siempre bai in hongge an asientadu a apudera. Pago yangin un kattayi ham gi halom este i trenta (30) dias siklo man infofotma hao pot i apudera sino komo i pattida para un kontra, pues bai in henta infotmasion pot i dibi-mu dispues un ma kattayi i kopia pot este na de'unta. Anai in resibe i katta-mu gi halom trenta (30) dias siklo, bai in nai'i hao i na'an yan address i akredot komo ti parehu na akredot ma indika guini hulu.

Este na katta para u ma na'kesiña ma rikohi i dibi-mu. Maseha hafa na infotmasion ni in resibe pot este na apudera-sina bai in usa para bai in ke-chagi mu rekohi para este I dibi-mu.

/s/ MICHAEL A. WHITE, ESQ.
Attorney at Law
October 10, 2013

BEFORE THE COMMONWEALTH PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

NOTICE OF BUSINESS MEETING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT the Commonwealth Public Utilities Commission will conduct a business meeting at 5:00 p.m. on Thursday, October 17, 2013 at the CNMI State Board of Education Conference Room, Susupe, Saipan, to consider the following agenda of administrative matters. Public attendance is welcome. Documents relevant to the agenda will be available at the meeting for public inspection. Questions regarding the agenda should be referred to Chair Joseph C. Guerrero at 670-233-4582 (phone) or cpuc.nmi@gmail.com (email).

AGENDA

1. Call to order – confirmation of quorum
2. Approval of minutes of the August 1, 2012 and September 12, 2012 meetings
3. Personnel matters:
   a. Hearing examiner excepted service employment contract
   b. Change order – Georgetown Consulting contract
4. FY14 Administrative Budget
5. FY14 Administrative Assessment
6. Check signing authority
7. Commission website
8. Public comments
9. Other business
10. Adjournment

/s/ Joseph C. Guerrero, CPUC Chairperson

Public urged to take part in today's 'Great CNMI ShakeOut'

Residents, organizations, and government agencies are being encouraged to participate in the annual CNMI-wide earthquake drill, the "2013 Great CNMI ShakeOut," which will take place today, Oct. 17, at 10:17am.

"While earthquakes are dangerous as a stand-alone-hazard, the disaster they can trigger—fires, structural damages, landslides and tsunami—can add to the devastation. A tsunami following an earthquake can often cause more damage than the shaking alone," said Gov. Eloy Inos in a statement yesterday.

The "2013 Great CNMI ShakeOut" earthquake drill incorporates preparedness for earthquake-related tsunamis. As part of this focus, communities across the CNMI will join this nationwide education effort and participate in ShakeOute drills.

"All individuals, families, schools, organizations, businesses and government agencies in the CNMI have a vital role in the emergency preparedness essential to maintaining the lifestyles and livelihoods we enjoy here in our islands. This year, when considering ways to be earthquake-prepared, please also take a moment to learn how to be tsunami-ready and help address the issues of tsunami following an earthquake," Inos said.

By registering to participate in the "2013 Great CNMI ShakeOut" annual CNMI-wide earthquake drill, "you and your organization will have the unique opportunity to partner with CNMI emergency managers, scientists, and community leaders to develop your own preparedness strategy for surviving and recovering from any disaster, including a catastrophic earthquake and the tsunami it may cause," the statement adds.

The CNMI, along with the nation and other countries, will be part of the Great ShakeOut 2013.

Join today by registering at www.shakeout.org/cnmi to participate in the 2013 Great CNMI ShakeOut. "We hope you can play your drill for that time, but you may also drill anytime within two weeks of the ShakeOut date to be counted as a participant. Working together, we can better protect ourselves, our families, our neighbors, and communities," Inos said. ***(Office of the Governor)***

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

SAIPAN SHIPPING DONATION

Joeten Memorial Golf Classic organizing committee chair Somia Quan, front left, receives a $5,000 check from Saipan Shipping Company representative Marites Yumul, front right, as a part of their donation to the upcoming fundraiser golf tournament slated for Nov. 9, 2013, at the Saipan Lao Lao Bay Golf & Resort. Quan is joined by other JMGC members, back row from left, Michael Demapan Jr., Jose Tenorio, and Clarence Tenorio Jr. Also in the photo is a staff member of Saipan Shipping.

Rota outreach on ACA postponed

The Office of the Insurance Commissioner said yesterday that the Affordable Care Act town hall meetings scheduled for Rota today, Oct. 17, 2013, has been postponed due to the inclement weather.

Because the outreach on Rota has to be rescheduled to the last week of October, the CNMI Consumer Assistance Program will be giving presentations to government agencies and private businesses on Saipan this week.

The Rota town hall meetings, designed to inform local officials, government employees and the general public of the new rights afforded to the health care consumer under the Affordable Care Act, have been rescheduled for Monday, Oct. 28, from 6pm to 7pm at the Mayor's Office conference room in Songsong. Government employees will be able to attend a presentation in the afternoon of Oct. 28, also at the Mayor's Office. For Sinapalo residents, the CAP will be available to answer questions on the Affordable Care Act from 3:30pm on Tuesday, Oct. 29, at the Rota Youth Center, with a presentation scheduled to start at 5pm.

The American Memorial Park Theater is the tentative venue for the Saipan public meeting next Friday evening, Oct. 25, from 6pm to 7:30pm, provided that the federal shutdown does not continue and the park is reopened. Alternative locations for the Saipan town hall meeting have not been established. Contact the CAP office for a location update if the park is still closed next week for the Oct. 25 town hall meeting.

Commerce Secretary Sixto Igisomar and advocacy officer Kaitlyn Neises-Mocanu began outreach on Tinian last week and, with the help of the Mayor's Office and Tinian Department of Commerce, meetings and presentations on the Affordable Care Act reached more than 70 people. The CAP also established working relationships with the Tinian Department of Commerce and the Tinian Mayor's Office to coordinate future outreach activities, and introduced the CAP to local community leaders to begin raising awareness of services the CAP offers to the public.

Created earlier this year with federal grant funds, the CNMI Consumer Assistance Program assists health care consumers in the CNMI by informing consumers of their rights and the new rules that insurance companies must follow. The CAP also assists consumers when filing complaints and appeals and advocates for the consumer in public policy matters. The Consumer Assistance Program's mission is to educate, assist and protect the CNMI health care consumer.

Learn more about the Affordable Care Act in the CNMI at cnmicap.wordpress.com. ***(Office of the Governor)***

MINA executive director steps down

Sam Sablan recently stepped down as executive director of the Marianas Islands Nature Alliance to pursue her first love, culinary arts.

Sablan

A chef by training, Sablan left for Japan on Tuesday to further hone her culinary skills. She told *Saipan Tribune* that she loves MINA and leaves with a heavy heart, but she had no choice but to grab the opportunity to get back to her field of expertise.

She said a Japanese fast-food company offered her a job as they are planning to open franchises in the Marianas, Guam first and then Saipan.

MINA board of directors chair Frankie Eliptico thanked Sablan for her years of service at the conservation non-profit organization.

Before assuming the executive director post, Sablan served as a board member of MINA.

"Sam has made significant contributions to the growth of MINA, and she has been worked really hard to ensure that conservation continues to be a top priority here in the CNMI," he said.

"We are sad to see her go, but we understand that her passion has always been cooking and she received this great opportunity to do just that. Of course, the board members and I wish her the best in all her endeavors," he said.

In the meantime, Eliptico said that Elisabeth "Becky" Furey will be acting executive director until a permanent director is found.

"We are confident in Becky's skill and abilities and have no doubt she will be able to continue the great work that Sam was doing," said Eliptico.

MINA secretary Ron Smith also wished Sablan well. "She's been wanting to pursue her culinary career for a long time and had a great opportunity to do so. We wish her the best of luck in all her endeavors. Beck Furey will be acting executive director on a trial basis under the direct supervision of the chairman of the board of directors."

MINA is a conservation non-profit organization. Recently, MINA hosted the Green Gala, which raised thousands of dollars for environmental efforts. ***(Mark Rabago)***

CTSI Logistics is inviting qualified U.S. workers to apply for the following positions:

Storage and Distribution Supervisor
Associate's Degree with at least 3 years of distribution and warehousing supervisory experience. Knowledge of household goods handling and airfreight and oceanfreight operations is required. Proficiency in Warehouse management system software is required. Knowledge of Federal Regulations in Transportation is required. Must have obtained certifications/training in Hazmat, Occupational Safety and Hazardous Waste Operation, IICL (Container and Chassis) and Vehicle Safety Guidelines.

Shipping Supervisor
Associate's Degree and at least 3 years of shipping, receiving and warehousing supervisory experience is required. Proficiency in shipping operations, shipping documentation & cargo management system software is required. Knowledge of Federal Regulations in Transportation, 49 CFR & IMDG Code is required. Must have obtained certifications/training in Hazmat, Occupational Safety and Hazardous Waste Operation, IICL (Container and Chassis) and Vehicle Safety Guidelines. Knowledge of bill of ladings, scheduling and planning inbound and outbound shipments is a must.

Transportation Supervisor
Associate's Degree and at least 3 years of logistics and trucking operations supervisory experience is required. Must be knowledgeable in transportation and safety regulations and proficient in various logistic software. Knowledge of Federal Regulations in Transportation is required. Must have obtained certifications/training in Hazmat, Occupational Safety and Hazardous Waste Operation, Emergency Response, IICL (Container and Chassis), Petroleum Standard Operating Procedure and Vehicle Safety Guidelines.

Freight Forwarding Supervisor
Associate's Degree with at least 3 years experience in freight forwarding operations and 1-year experience in transportation security and communication related activities. Knowledge of TSA security regulations and proficiency in TSA Known Shipper Management System are a must. Knowledge of Federal Regulations in Transportation is required. Must have obtained certifications/training in Hazmat, Occupational Safety and Hazardous Waste Operation and IATA related trainings. Proficiency in airfreight documentation, freight forwarding software, FEDEX systems and operations are a must. Must be familiar with airline operations and regulations.

Sales Officer
Associate's Degree in Sales or Marketing and at least 3 years work related experience are required as well as an extensive knowledge and experience in supply chain and freight brokerage. Must have his/her own reliable transportation. Can work flexible hours. Must be able to meet monthly sales targets and have extensive contacts in various industries. Proficiency in freight forwarding, shipping and household goods operations are a must. Must be familiar with freight forwarding software.

Cargo and Freight Agent (5)
Associate's Degree with a minimum of 2 years experience in a logistics, freight brokerage or warehouse services business. Must know how to operate a forklift with certification. Must be able to do strenuous work with some lifting and carrying of small items on the job. Licensed to drive 4x6 wheel closed vans and must have obtained training or certification in handling hazardous materials, Occupational Safety, Hazardous Waste Operation and IAC CCSF authorized screener. Must be proficient in MS Office and Oracle-based programs and available to work on evenings and weekend hours.

Specialized Truck Driver (6)
High School graduate with at least 2 years experience operating trucks or vans with a capacity of at least 10,001 pounds gross vehicle weight (GVW) or 10 to 16-wheeled vehicles. Must have a valid commercial driver's license (CDL). Must have at least 3 years experience in hauling petroleum products with the corresponding SMITHS & STOPS training certification, carrying hazardous materials or oversized loads plus certificates or training in handling hazardous materials and cargoes is a must. Must be able to follow strict safety and operations procedures.

Heavy Equipment Truck Driver (3)
High School graduate with at least 2 years experience operating trucks or vans with a capacity of at least 10,001 pounds gross vehicle weight (GVW) or 10 to 16-wheeled vehicles. Must have a valid commercial driver's license (CDL). Experience in carrying hazardous materials or oversized loads plus certificates or training in handling hazardous materials and cargoes is a must. Must be able to follow strict safety and operations procedures.

Shipping and Receiving Clerk (6)
Associate's Degree and at least 2 years work related experience. Must be proficient in MS Office programs as well as other planning and logistics software. Knowledge of supply chain, shipping operations and procedures, document preparation and recordkeeping is required. Should possess good interpersonal and verbal communication skills.

Truck Mechanic
Vocational or High School Graduate. Must be able to diagnose, adjust, repair, or overhaul trucks, or maintain and repair any type of engines. Minimum of two (2) year work experience is required on these areas: lubrication, repairs and servicing, use of machine tools, welding and flame cutting, engine elements, gears, brakes, transmission, exhausts, etc. Proficiency in critical devices for fuel tank trucks is a must.

Automotive Body Repairer
Formal Auto Body Training in a Vocational School is required as well as a minimum of one-year experience in repairing and refinishing automotive vehicle bodies' vehicle frames. Proficiency in automotive body painting is required.

Janitor
Dependable attendance, hard working and follows directions well. Must be available to work early mornings, late nights and weekends.

A pre-employment drug testing will be required. Salaries will be commensurate with qualification and experience. For applications to be considered, they should submit resume / application to CTSI Logistics, Lower Base not later than October 25, 2013.

We are an Equal Opportunity Employer.
Women, minorities and disabled persons are encouraged to apply.

Guam bases on Condition of Readiness 3

ASAN, Guam—Joint Region Marianas has established Condition of Readiness 3 as a result of destructive winds of 50 knots or more expected within 48 hours. This will be implemented at both Andersen Air Force Base and Naval Base Guam immediately.

Tropical storm force winds are expected to begin affecting the area within the next 48 hours. The National Weather Service has placed Guam under a Tropical Storm Watch, which indicates that damaging winds between 39-73 mph are possible within the next 48 hours.

Military personnel are currently securing facilities and base housing residents are instructed to commence heavy weather preparedness efforts.

For updates and general information on conditions of readiness throughout the region, check the Joint Region Marianas Facebook or Twitter pages at facebook.com/jrmguam or twitter.com/jrmguam.

Andersen AFB personnel should track updates on the Andersen AFB website (www.andersen.af.mil) or the Andersen AFB Facebook page at facebook.com/36WGPA.

Naval Base Guam personnel should track updates on the NBG Facebook and Twitter pages at facebook.com/USNavalBaseGuam or twitter.com/nbguam or call the base information line at 339-INFO(4636). ***(Joint Region Marianas Public Affairs Office)***

FOA membership meeting on Oct. 22

The Friends of the Arts will be holding its first membership meeting of the 2014 season on Tuesday, Oct. 22, at the Taste of India Restaurant in Garapan. A delicious Indian buffet will open the program at 6:30pm with entertainment starting at 7pm or shortly thereafter, interspersed with a brief rundown of FOA business to include announcement and tickets for the upcoming 2014 season, which will begin on Oct. 25, 26, 27 at the MHS Dolphin Theater with a production of *The Ives Have It: The Ways and Means of David Ives*, a selection of one act plays by David Ives. Season tickets will be available at $40 for adults and $25 for students.

The cost for the membership meeting is the same as in previous meetings: $15 for adult members of FOA (age 12 and above) and guests, $8 for children (age 4-12) and no charge for children younger than 4 years.

"We have had membership meetings at the Taste of India Restaurant before and everyone greatly enjoyed the food. There will also be vegetarian dishes. If you have a favorite dish, let me know and I will try to include it. Aji Thomas, the manager for the Taste of India, is a member of FOA," said FOA's Frank Gibson.

Email Gibson at flgibson@yahoo.com for more information or to confirm attendance. ***(PR)***

ANTI-DOMESTIC VIOLENCE ADVOCACY JESSE LEON GUERRERO

SANTA RITA, Guam—U.S. Naval Base Guam Commanding Officer Capt. Mike Ward signs a proclamation declaring October as Domestic Violence Awareness Month at the NBG headquarters in Santa Rita on Sept. 30. The proclamation promotes healthy relationships by raising awareness of this issue that affects both military and civilian communities. "It's very destructive to families and victims," Ward said. "That certainly impacts mission wherever those folks happen to live and work as well. We bring attention to the issue here to empower ourselves not only in the month of October, but throughout the year." This year's theme of "Silence Hides Violence" directs everyone to speak out against domestic violence and seek help from professionals. The Navy, through its Fleet and Family Support Center's Family Advocacy Program, encourages sailors and family members to participate at several domestic violence prevention activities in Guam. This photo has been altered for security purposes.

SNAP benefits for Nov. in limbo as fed govt shutdown continues

GUAM (Pacific News Center)—As the budget standoff continues in Washington DC, the Department of Public Health is concerned that funding won't be available to pay food stamp benefits next month.

Public Health Deputy Director Leo Casil tells PNC that benefits paid at the beginning of this month are the last of the federally appropriated funds for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program known as SNAP.

The department pays about $10 million in food stamp benefits to Guam residents every month through funding from the federal government. Public Health Director James Gillan told PNC at the start of the shutdown that the department had received mixed messages about funding for November. Casil today said the department is still waiting for clarification from the federal government.

Some 16,000 families receive SNAP benefits in Guam each month.

200 laid off from Guam Shipyard

GUAM (Pacific News Center)—Guam Department of Labor Director Manny Cruz confirms that 200 workers have been laid off from Guam Shipyard.

» Following ship repair contract award to Cabras Marine

Cruz says that the Agency for Human Resource Development [AHRD] has been activated to provide job assistance to the workers who have been laid off.

The layoffs notices were issued yesterday [Tuesday] following the Navy's decision to award a $77 million dollar pierside ship repair contract to Cabras Marine . The contract is for one-year, with 4 option years. The contract award was announced by Delegate Madeleine Bordallo (D-GU) last Saturday.

Cabras Marine Business Manager John Manibusan told PNC News Monday that they expect to hire more than 100 new employees in the coming months.

Guam Shipyard previously held the ship repair contract and still occupies the Navy's old Ship Repair Facility [SRF] at Naval Base Guam. However the Navy, without explanation, broke off negotiations with Guam Shipyard last year.

Guam Shipyard has not yet returned a call for comment on the layoffs.

10 Saipan beaches red-flagged

The Division of Environmental Quality has red-flagged 10 beaches on Saipan and is advising the public not to fish or swim within 300 feet of these locations for the next 48 hours or until otherwise notified.

The affected sites are the Tanapag Meeting Hall, Hafa Adai Hotel, Garapan Beach, Chalan LauLau Beach, Civic Center Beach, Saipan World Resort, CK Dist. 2 drainage, CK Dist. 4 Lally Beach, PIC Beach, and San Antonio lift station.

Samples collected from these locations contained excessive concentrations of fecal indicator bacteria (enterococci) that exceeded the CNMI Marine Water Quality Standards. These bacteria can indicate the presence of human and animal waste in the water.

DEQ analyzes water samples collected from Saipan's recreational beaches and storm drainages every Tuesday. For more information, contact DEQ at 664-8500. ***(PR)***

BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUT

Happy 3rd birthday to our baby girl Neidee'an Jorgette O. Benavente! Greetings come from Mommy, Daddy, your sisters Neiyani Lynn and Naylee Shay, and most especially your one and only baby brother NeiSean Zot.

Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

October 17, 2005

To renew or not to renew

The latest renewal of Gov. Juan N. Babauta's declaration of a state of emergency at the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. expired yesterday. The governor had not yet decided whether or not to keep his administration's control of the utility. Babauta said on Saturday that he would meet with CUC officials this week to discuss Saipan's current power situation. Specifically, he wants to know whether Engine 3 could be put back in operation to provide reserve power to the island. The governor also intends to discuss a plan to shut down Engine 1 for repair.

Call center eyed at Nauru Bldg.

Businessman Erick Van Der Maas wants to convert the 7th floor of the Nauru Building in Susupe into a call center. The entire 7th floor was never rented out ever since the building's construction in the mid's because it was reserved for VIPs of the Republic of Nauru. The floor consists of a well-designed residential suite and a spacious conference room. The residential area is fully equipped; with an elegant living room, the masters bedroom, which has an awesome view of the ocean, a personal assistant's bedroom, and two other smaller rooms. The 7th floor suite has its own kitchen and dining room area.

October 17, 2006

'17 NMI patients in Hawaii are safe'

Seventeen medical referral patients from the CNMI who are currently in Hawaii are safe, according to the Department of Public Health. DPH Secretary Joseph Kevin P. Villagomez assured yesterday that the 17 CNMI patients who are undergoing treatment in Honolulu, Oahu are "safe and completely fine." He said two of the patients were inside hospitals when the tremor struck Hawaii early Sunday morning. Villagomez said the other 15 were inside the Pagoda Hotel where they are currently staying during their entire treatment and medical consultation in Hawaii.

OPA investigates IDS

The Office of the Public Auditor is now investigating a Guam-based private accounting firm contracted to handle the payroll processing of the Commonwealth Ports Authority, following information that it may have withheld some $350,000 in public funds. "We are pursuing it. We are investigating this matter. I think the exposure is in excess of $300,000. .Although the employees may have been paid, there may be some other payees [who] were not paid," said Public Auditor Michael Sablan in an interview yesterday. Sablan had ruled out any government exposure in the IDS situation during an interview last week, citing information from CPA showing that it made no remittance to IDS last week when the accounting firm's accounts were reportedly frozen by federal authorities.

October 17, 2007

As Lito water has bacteria

The Commonwealth Utilities Corp. yesterday issued a drinking water warning after test results showed that the water supply in As Lito was contaminated with E. coli bacteria. "These bacteria can make you sick, and are a particular concern for people with weakened immune systems," according to CUC spokesperson Pamela Mathis. Mathis said locations found to have the bacteria include water supply in the Chalan Martinez Road, As Perdido Road, St. Jude and Immanuel United Methodist Churches, ABCD Market area, and east on Tun Kioshi Road. She advised residents in the affected areas not to drink tap water without boiling it first.

Candidates snub SCC symposium

Incumbent candidates for the Legislature are reportedly boycotting the election forums being organized by the Saipan Chamber of Commerce, stung by a letter sent by Chamber president Juan T. Guerrero scoring the lawmakers for their action to lower power rates for residential customers. Although lawmakers declined to confirm the boycott, it was noted that of the three incumbent House of Representatives candidates from Precinct 2 and 4, only one, Rep. Manuel A. Tenorio, showed up at the first forum, held Monday night at the Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan Hibiscus Hall. The absent incumbents were House Speaker Oscar M. Babauta and Vice-Speaker Justo S. Quitugua.

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More information and applications can be found at www.sablan.house.gov, or by calling 670-323-2647 in Saipan, 532-2647 in Rota, or 433-2647 in Tinian. Applications are due December 13, 2013.
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Opinion

Hafa Adai!
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The Associated Press
Pacific Islands News Association

EDITORIAL

Federal funding for scientific research

The addition of three Nobel laureates—Stanford's Michael Levitt and Thomas Sudhof and UC Berkeley's Randy Schekman—to the Bay Area's long list of winners only enhances the region's well-deserved reputation for innovation. And these close-to-home academic superstars can also help shed light on the role a steady, predictable flow of federal research funding plays in their success.

Unfortunately, President Barack Obama reduced the budget for National Institutes of Health research by 5 percent last year, even though it represents less than 1 percent of federal spending. The government shutdown is only making matters worse, resulting in the furlough of 13,000 researchers and blocking hundreds of projects.

The NIH is the largest source of funding for medical research in the world, financing more than 300,000 researchers at more than 2,500 universities. Silicon Valley has a huge interest in restoring those funds and should push the president and Congress to reopen the government and expand investment in the nation's future.

"I have no specific complaints. ... I have been well-funded by the NIH," Levitt said Wednesday after hearing the news that he would share the Nobel Prize for chemistry with Martin Karplus of Harvard and Arieh Warshel of the University of Southern California. "But things are becoming difficult at the NIH, and funding is becoming harder and harder to get. Our system is the envy of the world, but it needs to be protected."

Another Nobel winner, James Rothman of Yale, who shared the award for medicine with Sudhof and Randy Schekman, wasn't so lucky. Because of budget cuts, Rothman lost his NIH funding for the very research the Nobel committee awarded, and he told reporters Tuesday that he hopes the prize will mean his grants will be funded if he reapplies.

NIH research is largely responsible for extending the life expectancy of babies born today by 30 years since the early 1900s. It's also responsible for nearly every significant advancement in cancer research and for the discovery of the structure of DNA. Every $1 of NIH funding generates about $2.21 in economic growth—a huge return on investment.

But federal cutbacks have led to a precipitous drop in the percentage of grants approved by the NIH. As recently as 2000, nearly 30 percent of all NIH grant applications were funded. Today, that success rate is under 20 percent. Meanwhile, countries such as China, Germany, Japan and South Korea have all been substantially increasing their research budgets.

Without an increase in NIH funding, it's only a matter of time before other nations begin surpassing the innovative efforts that have helped make Silicon Valley and the nation the envy of the world.

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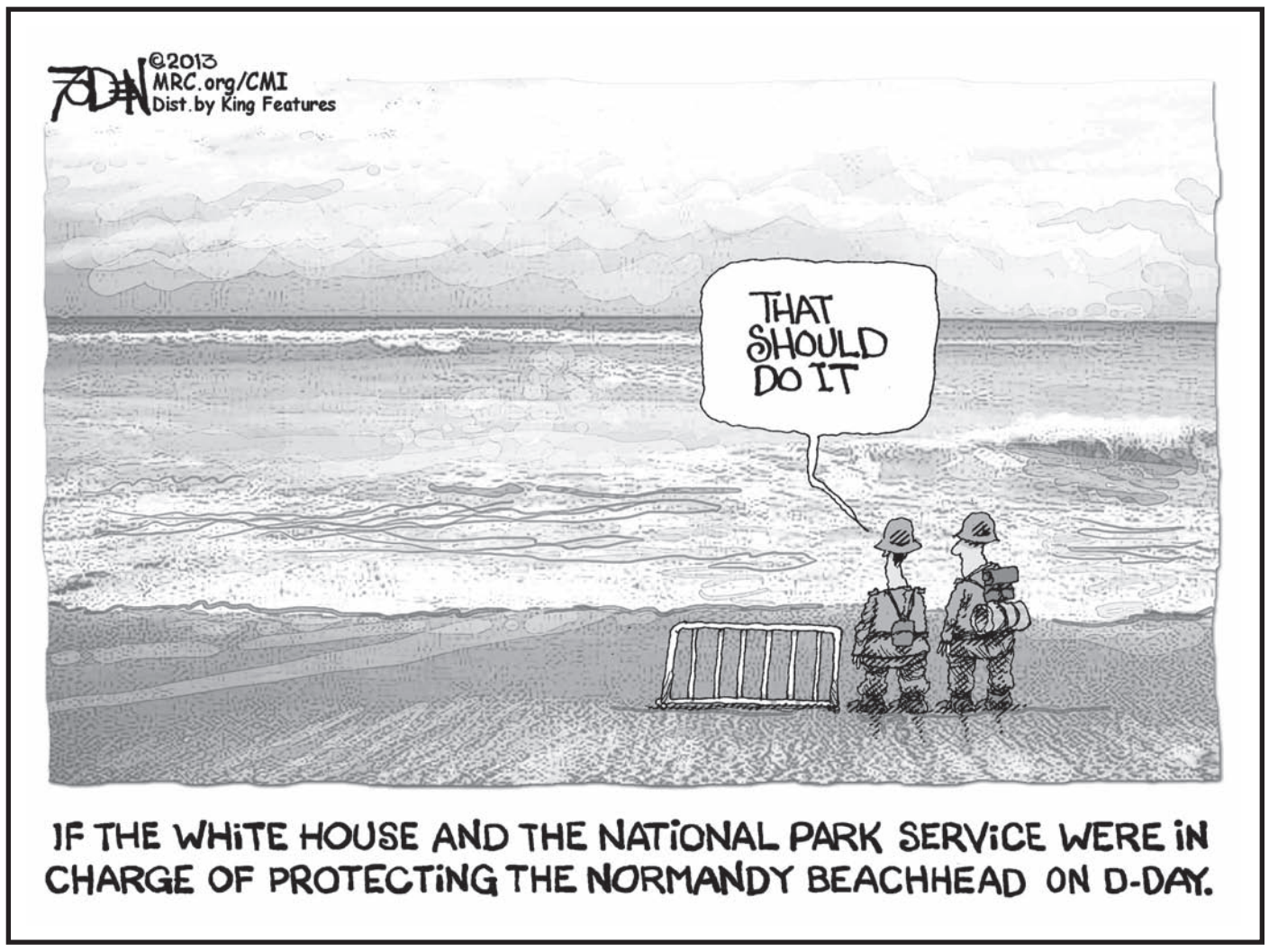
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THAT SHOULD DO IT
IF THE WHITE HOUSE AND THE NATIONAL PARK SERVICE WERE IN CHARGE OF PROTECTING THE NORMANDY BEACHHEAD ON D-DAY.

Mariana shark assessment and fisheries development

By ARNOLD PALACIOS
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Arnold Palacios is chairman of the Western Pacific Regional Fishery Management Council and secretary of the CNMI Department of Lands and Natural Resource.

The Western Pacific Regional Fishery Management Council is meeting this week in Honolulu to discuss a variety of federal fishery management issues for the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands and Guam, which are managed collectively under the Mariana Archipelago Fishery Ecosystem Plan for insular fisheries and the Pacific Pelagic FEP for open ocean fisheries. Council discussion will also address the federally managed fisheries of American Samoa and Hawaii.

One of items on the agenda is sharks in the Mariana Archipelago and its impacts on local fisheries. This issue has been brought up almost annually by the Council's Advisory Panel, an advisory body whose members are principally fishermen and representatives from the indigenous communities of the U.S. Pacific Islands.

The need to address Mariana sharks is not a new subject for the Council. This issue has been presented to the Council from the government as well as the fishermen of the CNMI for more than three decades.

In March 1979, Gov. Carlos S. Camacho pleaded to the Council for economic help. "In this ocean of presumed abundance…fish, fish everywhere, but no fishing vessels, no capital, no processing plants, no suitable reefers, no commercially trained fishermen…and maybe not very much commitment nor expectation." Then-Gov. Camacho clearly laid out what the new CNMI administration hoped to accomplish: 1) full participation and voting rights in the Council, 2) fishery surveillance and enforcement by the U.S. government, 3) a marine resources assessment, 4) a solution to shark problems that were plaguing the industry, 5) the ability to use foreign hull-fishing vessels in the Northern Marianas (i.e., an exemption from U.S. fishing vessel documentation standards), 6) obtaining capital through the National Marine Fisheries Service financial programs, and 7) access to the federal Intergovernmental Personnel Act through the Cooperative Program for Fishery Manpower Development Program, so they could get money to train local youth to become fishers.

Today, nearly 35 years later, the CNMI is a voting member of the Council; the U.S. government provides fishery surveillance and enforcement; assessments have been completed for bottomfish and shrimp; the CNMI and the territories have an exemption that allows them to use foreign-built hulls to fish; and the CNMI can obtain capital through NMFS. However, a stock assessment for Mariana sharks still does not exist; the fishermen of Guam as well as CNMI continue to ask the Council for assistance to address shark depredation (taking of bait by sharks); and the CNMI fishing industry is still largely underdeveloped.

In 2007, the Council partnered with the United Nation Environmental Programme, Moore Foundation, and a few other organizations to publish a study titled *Shark Depredation and Unwanted Bycatch in Pelagic Longline Fisheries* (http://www.wpcouncil.org/managed-fishery-ecosystems/pacific-pelagic/pacific-pelagic-library-2/). The report noted "the lack of both reliable fishery-dependent data and fundamental biological information for most shark species." The report concluded by encouraging fishery management authorities "to begin effective date collection, monitoring and precautionary shark management measures to ensure that shark fishing mortality levels are sustainable."

Last week, the Council's Scientific and Statistical Committee deliberated on the shark issue in Guam and the CNMI. The SSC suggested that existing data sources be reviewed and fishery surveys be conducted to characterize the shark populations and shark depredation in the archipelago.

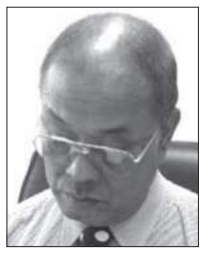
Today, the full Council will convene at 8:30am in Honolulu to begin its three-day meeting to consider recommendations from the SSC and its other advisory bodies, reports from its staff and other agencies, and comments from the public. Council decisions are based on the 10 National Standards in the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, so that fishery management measures use the best scientific information available, prevent overfishing while achieving maximum sustainable yield, minimize bycatch, minimize impacts to fishing communities, and promote the safety of fishermen, among other criteria. To learn more about the Council and this week's Council meeting, interested members of the public should visit the Council website at www.wpcouncil.org.

The Council is an instrumentality of the federal government, established by Congress in 1976, and has authority over the fisheries seaward of the commonwealth, territories, state and several U.S. island possessions in the Pacific. The Council consists of 13 voting members, eight of whom are nominated by the governors of their island area and then appointed by the U.S. Secretary of Commerce. The other voting members include four designated local government representatives, one each from the CNMI, territories and state, plus the regional administrator for the NMFS Pacific Islands Regional Office. The U.S. Coast Guard, the Department of State, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services are non-voting members.

EDITORIAL POLICY Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Ma-utot 25 pct. gi pagamiento

By JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.
Special to the Saipan Tribune



John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the Saipan Tribune *and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands.*

Kase tres mit (3,000) na man-ritirau man-ma-utot pagamienton niha na semana. Megai man-finiñut ha'anen niha `nai makapon 25 pot sientu gi uttimu salape` familia. Desde apas para primet guma` familia, kareta, magagon famaguon yan otru siha nesessidat mas makat makubre ginen disision i administrasion.

Gi hilu` este na aminasu yan sa`pet, para umahatsa ta`lu i kandet, siempre u mahatsa apas health insurance yan otru siha nesessidat gi tenda. Gi katkuet birada, tat familia ti unina` fañufa` gi halom mas makat na tirun linala` miserapble na biahe. Taya` magahet kampu para uma-utut gastun gobietnu gi halom sumen didog na tiempon ha`ilas?

Este i mattirun ha`ilas gaige gi kada familia guine ni tinanahoñg pagamienton niha maseha guaha man-machochochu`. Piot ya dañkulu na inañgoghu gi solu pottanmonedan famiia ni ginen pagamientun ritirau. Manu `nai para umasoda`e kubren i pa`gu ma-u`utut na pagamientu? Haye para u responsable ni apas primet gima` familia? Kau este rekueddon prinimesan "better times?"

Gi mismu tiempu, para u falagnos mas ke $40 miyon na salape` otru tropan membron programa. Siempre u guaha antau na disision gi disposision este na fondun familia. Guaha ha` lokue u fan hanau entalu' Guam, Hawaii yan sanlagu `nai guaha nuebu na sinisun mames na sakaten lina`la` gi halom dañkulu na hatdin appottunidat.

Sumen makat na karera i mafafana` mas ke tres mit (3,000) na familia guine ginen ma-utut pagamienton man-ritirau. Ni hafa na esperansa `sino fina` kandet a`anog mona gi halom chubasku gi kanton mattiñgan `sino kantit. Puede ma`ase` i Saina ya ha esgaihon galaide`ta lachadeg halom gi safu na puettu `nai siña ta ta`lon umaregla karera-ta na biahe.

Ma-asegura na broke i programa

Fuera de primet gobietnu yan lehislatura ni man-halom gi 1978, todu dispues tumobus i progrman man-ritirau para umana` kara` (broke).

Desde ti ma-apasen obligasion gobietnu gi programa ni mama` hogsu` dibi pa`gu ($371 miyon pesus) yan otru siha malabida. Madisidi gi hilu` kinentran lai konstitusion ma-utut pagamientun man-ritirau ni maprohibe mapacha.

Hagas mahuganduye machansa sa` pinelun niha na machuchuda` kebleña i programa. Sige ma-aminasa estake megaiña madidibi ke haf` siña ma-apase tatte. Estague` na estau `nai mañuñufa` pa`gu i madidibi na ma-utut pagamientu pa'gu na semana nu este na administrasion.

Mafa` eskusu maribahan usun kandet gi halom ahensian gobietnu. Ti ma-espiha haf` taimanu `nai para uma-utut diskuidau siha na gaston gobietnu. Dispues fuetsau ma-utut ya man-atog gi tatten potta para umakeli`e haf` sentimientun i man-sina`pet siha na man-ritirau. Better Times? Dalai `ste! Kase mas ha` gi "This is IT!"

Guaha lamegai na dibi ti man-marikokohe maseha para umakatsu i programan man-ritirau. Masotta ya sige mañganta "Ke sera, sera" kulan bibun fandango. I man-inaminasa na famiian man-ritirau mañichichi` gi halom ti sañgayun na sapet.

Siempre ti apmam yan pa`gu u huyuñg, sin ditension, i binibun publiku `nai u fan fila hulu` gi hegsu` I Deni` ya umadimanda antau yan satton na ineppe fuera ke esta monhayan na disision tailaye gi megai na familia siha guine.

Linala` Familia

Todu rumikonose kuantu mana` suha gi pagamientun niha. Kulan bidan un` saki ni humalom gi gima` familia gi chatagmag ya ha hakot manu i siña desde kusina halom esta i apusientu.

Gi didog na tiempun ha`ilas ni sige ha mas tume`ug, makat i para un' chule`guan familia maseha dididi` gi uttimu fondun nesessidat linala' niha.

Desde apas primet na guma` familia fuetsau un` pega gi halom fache` diskuidun offisiat publiku para u fan ma-amot fanliheñg niha ni bañku.

Asuntun hinemlu`, amot ni man-guaguan, magagun famaguon, neñkanu`, yan otru siha nesessidat familia ma`tut ensegidas gi papa` disision maribahan 25 pot sientu gi sueddon man-ritirau.

Esta ti man-kakadideñg este siha na familia gi ha`anen niha. Mangagalileg gi halom fache` miserapble na modun linala`, rekueddon republican na administrasion. Biba IT!

Yahu lumi`e haf` otru para umasañgan gi este na estrakadan politika. I dinage ti u falofan ya makat matulaika sentimenton botadot `nai un` sapet i publiku pot diskuidumu man-dispone gi tatkilu` na hogsu` I Deni.

Mattu i ora `nai kritikamiente kada botadot u ebalua sin ditension kau este na modun linala` madiseseha para mona. Gi hilu` este, i publiku ti u lache gi disisioña para u tulaika i linimutan yan lamog na mañglu` diskuidu. Este siempre umasusede sin ditension. Chatmiyu fan lilihan sa` hamyu solu gumuadog naftan miyu!

■■■

Ilegña un' ritirau na sinañganegue` ni un` tautau administrasion "cha`mu lilihan". Tiha tuñgu` i prohimu haf` para u sañgan ni binibuña. Dispues ilegña nu guahu, "Masyu` pa'gu luhan `nai ilegña si tonta cha`mu lilihan". De dios na palabran muron gi talulu` gi halom mas miserapble na pinadesen publiku. Diberas, dalai `ste!

Obamacare: Don't trust anyone over 60?

By ROBERT HAHN and PETER PASSELL
LOS ANGELES TIMES

The Republicans' obsession with Obamacare has been variously described as a tactical ploy to preserve the semblance of unity in a divided party or as a fundraising magnet to raise money from the sort of folks who think President Obama is a reincarnation of Lenin. It may be either (or both). But the idea of closing down the government, and even threatening to precipitate a global credit crisis, over the health-care law has been widely written off as myopia on the part of the live-free-or-die crowd.

We're not so sure. Focusing on Obamacare in general, and mandatory coverage in particular, could prove a plausible strategy for broadening the anti-Obama coalition to include voters in their 20s and 30s by bringing attention to what economists call the "cross-subsidy" inherent in any insurance system based on mandatory coverage. And, with hindsight, it may yet be seen as the opening salvo in a generational war, one fed by the reality that older Americans are a rapidly growing burden on younger workers, who can ill afford it.

As everybody with a pulse must know by now, if the only folks who buy Obamacare coverage are the sick and those in late middle age, the system will be self-supporting only at very high premiums, hardly a recipe for cementing popular support. That's why candidate Obama reluctantly accepted the individual mandate as part of his health insurance plan, adding a spoonful of sugar for those who are poorly paid (but Medicaid ineligible) in the form of need-based subsidies. Indeed, as pundit Matt Miller has pointed out, such generational transfers are the keystone to virtually all health insurance: Employer-based group insurance works only because younger workers help carry older ones.

There are powerful economic arguments in favor of universal coverage. For one thing, it solves the "free-riding" problem. Because we collectively assume responsibility for the uninsured when they end up in the hospital anyway, why not ask them to take some responsibility before the fact? Equally to the point, mandatory coverage would probably cut the country's total medical bill, reducing the financial incentive for an individual to delay treatment until a garden-variety illness morphs into a case for the ICU.

That said, it is still foolish to ignore the leverage that the individual mandate gives opponents of Obamacare. America's healthcare system for the elderly (Medicare, plus Medicaid for nursing-home care) is already edging the country toward generational war because Washington will sooner or later be forced to choose between drastic limitations on coverage in those programs or drastic increases in taxes on the decreasing portion of working Americans. Now we're adding a parallel obligation on younger workers to subsidize healthcare for fiftysomethings.

What to do? The path of least political resistance is to tough it out, hoping younger households will be unable to figure out what's happening, or simply unwilling to throw in their lot with opponents of gay marriage, marijuana reform and the like. Alternatively, we could start paying attention to the building crisis as younger households scramble ever harder for a middle-class living standard.

And none too soon, because the signs of generational conflict are already appearing. Think, for example, of the flare in anger over the burden of college loans. Or the popular resentment of government employees who (at least until recently) could count on job stability, adequate health insurance and even pensions.

Those of us who are doing very well in a system that isn't working very well for the majority would be wise to do something about it before the doo-doo hits the fan. Then again, in light of what's been happening in Washington lately, maybe it's already too late.

Robert Hahn is director of economics at the Smith School, University of Oxford, and a senior fellow at the Georgetown Center for Business and Public Policy. Peter Passell is a senior fellow at the Milken Institute, a Santa Monica-based think tank, and editor of the Milken Institute Review. They wrote this for the Los Angeles Times.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Cause shown

The state of education in the CNMI is never far from the forefront of our community's consciousness. Unsurprisingly, issues surrounding the current "show cause" accreditation status of Northern Marianas College are unceasingly being discussed. From the moment the WASC action letter of Feb. 11, 2013, was made public, a great amount of discussion has occurred throughout our community over who is responsible for this current state of affairs. This letter will illustrate that Dr. Hart has misrepresented her ability to secure re-accreditation and how her leadership (or the lack thereof) is the central cause.

NMC was on probation when Dr. Hart arrived, but on her first day of work she "promised the college community and the Board of Regents that she would work to restore the institution's full accreditation on her first year" (*Saipan Tribune*, July 9, 2011). Noting "her strong accreditation background," Hart said "she can achieve her goal to get NMC out of its current probation status" within her first three months at the college (*Marianas Variety*, July 11, 2011) Over two years later, not only has the college not gotten off probation, it has been placed on the more serious "show-cause" status. The most casual observers can see that Dr. Hart has failed to achieve her objective.

Examining the recommendations of the latest WASC report, one sees a clear picture of Dr. Hart not doing what was required to reestablish accreditation. One example is how Dr. Hart addressed Eligibility Requirement 5: Administrative Capacity. In February 2012 NMC received the ACCJC visiting team report of October 2011 in which the team recommended "the immediate recruitment of a permanent CFAO for the college" (*Saipan Tribune*, Feb. 7, 2012). Dr. Hart chose to ignore this recommendation, actively resisting the hiring of a permanent CFAO. Instead, she made statements like this: "In my opinion, we have numerous individuals who are always doing that responsibility internally" (*Saipan Tribune*, April 13, 2012). She added that because "of the college's difficult financial situation, I would be bringing that up to the board for discussion in the next meeting" (*Saipan Tribune*, April 13, 2012), despite the CFAO position being an FTE-appropriated position with funds available for it throughout the entire timeframe (October 2011 to February 2013). Dr. Hart's actions led directly to the commission's concern that the college has failed "to hire a chief financial officer" (ER 5: Administrative Capacity, WASC action letter, Feb. 11, 2013) and therefore was placed on "show cause."

This is a microscopic portion of the type of information any honest review of Dr. Hart's performance would contain, all of which would lead to the same conclusion; Dr. Hart has continuously misrepresented her abilities and has failed to lead the college to re-accreditation. This is a seemingly endless stream of failings that runs through everything Dr. Hart has done since coming to NMC. NMC is vitally important to our community, so it is extremely important that the people of the CNMI learn the truth about the current college leadership's failings and how it continually misrepresents itself and its actions.

Kyle Podziewski
San Vicente, Saipan

The Weather

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY
Cloudy and breezy with numerous heavy showers and isolated thunderstorms. Southeast winds 20 to 25 mph.	Mostly cloudy and breezy with scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms. Southeast winds 20 to 25 mph.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms.
▲83° ▼76°	▲85° ▼76°	▲86° ▼76°	▲87° ▼77°	▲87° ▼77°

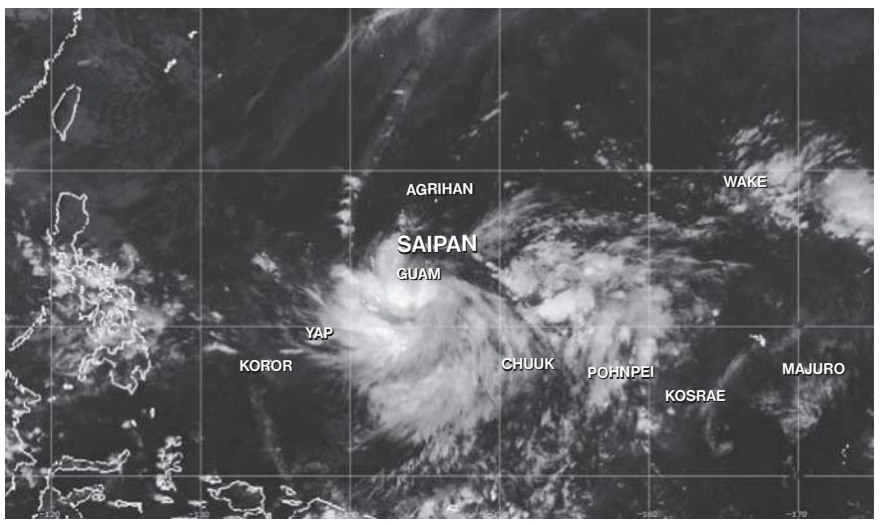
Micronesia

Guam And Rota	Thunderstorms	▲83	▼77
Palau	Partly Cloudy	▲86	▼79
Yap	Thunderstorms	▲87	▼79
Chuuk	Showers	▲86	▼77
Pohnpei	Cloudy	▲89	▼75
Kosrae	Cloudy	▲89	▼75
Majuro	Showers	▲86	▼80

Around The Globe

Auckland	Mostly Sunny	▲66	▼55
Beijing	Sunny	▲66	▼44
Hong Kong	Mostly Sunny	▲82	▼75
Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	▲84	▼72
London	Partly Cloudy	▲65	▼56
Los Angeles	Sunny	▲85	▼57
Manila	Partly Cloudy	▲87	▼75
Melbourne	Mostly Sunny	▲57	▼40
Miami	Partly Cloudy	▲87	▼73
New York	Mostly Cloudy	▲68	▼61
Osaka	Sunny	▲71	▼56
Paris	Mostly Cloudy	▲62	▼51
Pusan	Partly Cloudy	▲68	▼58
Rome	Sunny	▲74	▼56
Salem	Sunny	▲68	▼44
San Francisco	Sunny	▲77	▼55
Seoul	Mostly Sunny	▲65	▼44
Tokyo	Mostly Sunny	▲69	▼57
Washington, DC	Cloudy	▲75	▼61

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, TUESDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2013
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Tropical Depression 26W centered 66 miles southeast of Guam at 13N145E is moving west-southwest at 15 mph with maximum sustained winds of 30 mph. Numerous showers and a few thunderstorms are found primarily south and west of the Marianas between 15N and 3N from 141E to 150E. For more information on 26W, refer to bulletins issued by the Joint Typhoon Warning Center under WMO header WTPN31 PGTW and also public advisories issued by the National Weather Service under WMO header WTPQ31 PGUM. A surface trough extends eastward from Tropical Depression 26W to 15N164E. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms are occurring across portions of Chuuk and Pohnpei states between 16N and 5N from 150E to 163E. Another surface trough runs southeastward from 16N161E through a circulation centered northeast of Majuro at 14N178E to beyond the date line at 13N. In addition, an upper-level trough stretches eastward from 16N150E to beyond 180 at 23N. These features are combining to produce scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms over Wake Island between 21N and 16N from 162E to 176E. Numerous showers and a few thunderstorms are located near the circulation east of a line 17N178E to 13N178E.

Tides

Saipan Harbor

1:15 AM	Today	Low Tide:	0.3 Feet
7:12 AM	Today	High Tide:	1.8 Feet
1:22 PM	Today	Low Tide:	0.5 Feet
7:17 PM	Today	High Tide:	2.0 Feet

Sunrise/Sunset

Today	6:09 AM	5:56 PM
Friday	6:09 AM	5:55 PM
Saturday	6:09 AM	5:54 PM
Sunday	6:10 AM	5:54 PM
Monday	6:10 AM	5:54 PM

Moonrise/Moonset

Today	4:36 PM	4:16 AM
Friday	5:20 PM	5:11 AM
Saturday	6:04 PM	6:04 AM
Sunday	6:50 PM	6:58 AM
Monday	6:50 PM	6:58 AM

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  Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.
- BIRTHDAY GREETINGS
  A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
- BUSINESS
  Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
- SAMU'T SARI
  Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
- TRAVELOGUE
  Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- COMMUNITY BRIEFS
  Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.
- CAMPUS BULLETIN
  Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

REQUIREMENTS

For pictures:

- Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
- Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

For announcements:

- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and a phone number.
- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

HOW TO SUBMIT

- E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com or jayvee_vallejera@saipantribune.com.
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- Drop off: 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan
  To check if contributions are received, call (670) 235-6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

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- The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to accept or reject a contribution for publication; the right to edit all contributions, the date of publication, size of the picture, and page placement; and the right to publish contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats.
- The *Saipan Tribune* will decide how often community announcements are going to be published.
- For Travelogue, the *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to choose which pictures to publish.

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- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF OCTOBER 8, 2013

DEPARTURES

SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)			
UA5070	4:35am	5:25am	2, 4, 6, 7
UA5062	4:50am	5:40am	1, 3, 5
UA5068	8:35am	9:25am	Daily
UA5074	11:20am	12:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7
UA5076	3:10pm	4:00pm	Daily
UA5078	6:55pm	7:45pm	Daily
UA5072	9:45pm	10:35pm	Daily
SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)			
DL287	6:05am	8:40am	1, 2, 4, 5, 6
DL297	4:35pm	7:20pm	Daily
SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)			
0Z608	3:10am	6:20am	1, 4, 5, 7
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)			
0Z606	2:20am	6:00am	1
0Z606	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
0Z604	3:30pm	6:55pm	Daily
SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)			
3U8648	6:10am	8:40am	1, 4, 5, 7
SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)			
MU764	4:10am	8:00am	1, 5
SAIPAN-GUANZHOU (CAN)			
3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 6
SAIPAN-KHABAROVSK (KHV)			
SYL9950	6:40pm	1:30am+1	7
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)			
0Z606/701	2:20am	11:05am	1 via ICN
0Z606/701	2:50am	11:05am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA5070/191	4:35am	9:55am	6 via GUM
UA5062/191	4:50am	9:55am	3 via GUM
DL287/173	6:05am	10:10pm	1, 2, 4, 5, 6 via NRT
UA5068/PR111	8:35am	4:45pm	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM
UA5074/PR111	11:20am	4:45pm	1, 5, 7 via GUM
UA5076/183	3:10pm	8:45pm	2, 5 via GUM
UA5076/183	3:10pm	9:10pm	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
0Z604/703	3:30pm	10:45pm	Daily via ICN
SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)			
0Z606/721	2:20am	11:50am	1 via ICN
0Z606/721	2:50am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA5076/147	3:10pm	9:50pm	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM
0Z604/745	3:30pm	10:40pm	Daily via ICN

ARRIVALS

GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN			
UA 5069	2:45am	3:35am	2, 4, 6, 7
UA5071	7:15am	8:05am	Daily
UA5073	10:00am	10:50am	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7
UA5075	1:45pm	2:35pm	1, 4, 5, 7
UA5077	5:35pm	6:25pm	Daily
UA5079	8:20pm	9:10pm	Daily
GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)			
UA5062	2:40am	3:15am	1, 3, 5
UA5038	10:10am	10:45am	6
ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN			
UA5062	3:45am	4:20am	1, 3, 5
UA5038	11:15am	11:50am	6
NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN			
DL298	10:25am	3:05pm	Daily
DL288	8:15pm	12:50am+1	1, 3, 4, 5, 7
BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN			
0Z607	9:05pm	1:55am+1	3, 4, 6, 7
SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN			
0Z603	8:50am	2:20pm	Daily
0Z605	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
0Z605	8:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN			
3U8647	10:40pm	5:00am+1	3, 4, 6, 7
BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN			
MU763	7:55pm	3:10am+1	4, 7
GUANZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN			
3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5
KHABAROVSK (KHV)-SAIPAN			
SYL9949	12:45pm	5:20pm	7
MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN			
PR110/UA5072	7:35am	6:25pm	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM
DL172/288	7:55am	12:50am+1	1, 3, 4, 5, 7 via NRT
UA190/5079	10:55am	9:10pm	3, 6 via GUM
0Z702/605	12:15pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
0Z702/605	12:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
UA184/5071	10:25pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA184/5071	11:35pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via GUM
0Z704/603	11:45pm	2:20pm+1	Daily via ICN
HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN			
0Z746/603	12:30am	2:20pm	Daily via ICN
0Z722/605	1:10pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
0Z722/605	1:10pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
UA180/5071	10:45pm	8:05am+1	1, 5 via GUM
UA180/5071	10:50pm	8:05am+1	3, 6 GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U: Sichuan Airlines; MU: China Eastern; UA: United Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana; VLK: Vladivostok Air; SYL: Yakutia Air.

ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The *Saipan Tribune* is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
Guam–Rota			
FRE 100	7:30	8:00	Daily
Rota–Saipan			
FRE 100	8:20	8:50	Daily
Guam–Rota			
FRE 300	17:00	17:30	Daily
Rota–Saipan	17:50	18:20	Daily
Saipan–Rota			
FRE 200	9:30	10:00	Daily
Rota–Guam	10:20	10:45	Daily
Saipan–Rota			
FRE 400	18:55	19:25	Daily
Rota–Guam			
FRE 400	19:40	20:10	Daily
Saipan–Tinian			
FRE 101	6:45	6:55	Daily
FRE 103	7:30	7:40	Daily
FRE 105	8:00	8:10	Daily
FRE 107	8:40	8:50	Daily
FRE 109	9:10	9:20	Daily
FRE 111	10:45	10:55	Daily

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
FRE 115	13:00	13:10	Daily
FRE 117	14:30	14:40	Daily
FRE 119	16:00	16:10	Daily
FRE 121	16:40	16:50	Daily
FRE 123	17:40	17:50	Daily
FRE 125	18:30	18:40	Daily
Tinian–Saipan			
FRE 102	7:05	7:15	Daily
FRE 104	7:50	8:00	Daily
FRE 106	8:20	8:30	Daily
FRE 108	9:00	9:10	Daily
FRE 110	10:00	10:10	Daily
FRE 112	11:05	11:15	Daily
FRE 114	12:00	12:10	Daily
FRE 116	13:30	13:40	Daily
FRE 118	14:50	15:00	Daily
FRE 120	16:20	16:30	Daily
FRE 122	17:00	17:10	Daily
FRE 124	18:05	18:15	Daily
FRE 126	18:50	19:00	Daily

Business

Fitch puts US credit rating on negative watch

WASHINGTON (AP)—The Fitch credit rating agency has warned that it is reviewing the U.S. government's AAA credit rating for a possible downgrade, citing the impasse in Washington that has raised the threat of a default on the nation's debt.

Fitch placed the U.S. credit rating on negative watch Tuesday, a step that would precede an actual downgrade. The agency said it expects to conclude its review within six months.

The announcement comes as House and Senate leaders face a Thursday deadline to raise the nation's $16.7 trillion borrowing limit. Fitch says it expects the debt limit to be raised soon. But it adds, "the political brinkmanship and reduced financing flexibility could increase the risk of a U.S. default."

A Treasury Department spokesman said Fitch's announcement "reflects the urgency with which Congress should act to remove the threat of default hanging over the economy."

Dow Jones industrial futures were essentially unchanged Tuesday evening. Fitch made its announcement after financial markets had closed.

Lawmakers spent most of Tuesday trying to reach an agreement to lift the government's borrowing limit and avoid an eventual default. The limit is a cap on how much debt the government can accumulate to pay its bills. The government borrows in most years because its spending has long exceeded its revenue.

Fitch is one of the three leading U.S. credit rating agencies, along with Standard & Poor's and Moody's Investors Service.

S&P downgraded U.S. long-term debt to "AA+" in August 2011. But three months ago, it raised its outlook. That was in part because of tax increases and spending cuts that have helped shrink the budget deficit. S&P has said it's unlikely to change its rating because of the debt-limit fight.

Moody's said last week that even if Congress failed to raise the limit by Thursday, Treasury could make its interest payments ahead of other bills, "leaving its creditworthiness intact."

Fitch took a dimmer view Tuesday. It said Treasury might not be able to prioritize its interest payments. "It is unclear whether it even has the legal authority to do so," Fitch said.

A credit rating is an assessment of how able a country or company is to repay the money it's borrowed. A AAA rating lets companies and governments borrow at super-low rates.

So far, most investors have remained confident in U.S. debt, though rates have risen on short-term Treasury bills and shot up Tuesday as Congress' deadline neared. In a rare move, Fidelity Investments and JP Morgan Chase said last week that they had purged their money market funds of all U.S. bills that come due soon after this week.

Still, rates have remained stable on longer-term debt, like the benchmark 10-year Treasury note. That shows that investors remain confident in longer-term Treasurys. The rate on the 10-year note is important because it affects rates on mortgages and many other loans.

Jack Ablin, chief investment officer at BMO Private Bank, said Fitch's warning was no surprise.

"Creditworthiness is a function of two thing: ability and willingness," Ablin said.

New iPads likely at Apple event next week

CUPERTINO, Calif. (AP)—Apple is holding an event in San Francisco next week to announce new products—likely updated iPads.

The company announced its most recent iPads around this time last year. The announcement included a smaller version, called the Mini, for the first time.

New iPads would get Apple's latest operating system for mobile devices, iOS 7. The invitation sent Tuesday includes a graphic that mimics the color scheme in iOS 7.

Next Tuesday's event will take place at the Yerba Buena Center for the Arts Theater in San Francisco, a venue Apple has often used in the past.

It follows last month's release of new iPhones with iOS 7—the 5S model with a fingerprint sensor and a cheaper, 5C model with a variety of color options.

It's also possible Apple will use the event to release its new Mac operating system, Mavericks. Apple unveiled the system in June. The system will support tagging to help you find files more easily. It also promises better battery life and a way to keep track of passwords across multiple devices more easily. Apple may also announce new Mac computers at the event.

In praise of lunch breaks

By DIANE STAFFORD
The Kansas City Star

To reach Diane Stafford, call 816-234-4359 or send email to stafford@kcstar.com. Follow her online at kansascity.com/workplace and twitter.com/kcstarstafford.

Those of us who eat lunch at our desks, one hand on the computer mouse, the other on a sandwich, need to pay attention.

It's bad for us. And though our employers may not acknowledge it, it's bad for them, too.

Research reports are piling up that confirm we don't work any better when we toil uninterrupted. Brain mapping shows it's impossible to sustain high levels of concentration for hours on end.

Just because we put in more time doesn't necessarily mean we're more productive. We need to acknowledge that our minds need breaks, just as our muscles need to be protected from repetitive motion injury.

With all the attention to corporate wellness programs—the last, best hope to reduce health care expenses—more workers are hearing about the importance of daily exercise and the physical problems that result from too much sitting.

But the message sometimes gets trumped by the press of business in the do-more-with-less, nerve-wracked workplace. A lot of workers simply have big workloads and are afraid to take a break.

Industrial psychologists and other experts say that workers need to shed the guilt trip and create their own renewal times. A lunch break (not at one's desk), a walk around the block, a chatty interlude with a co-worker, a quick errand to the drugstore or library, even a private phone call with a friend or family member: These can be counterintuitive prescriptions for productivity.

What's important is a change of pace and change of focus. Some employers even provide sanctioned nap rooms. It's hard to improve on the rejuvenating power of sleep.

There is, of course, a vital balance between goofing off and taking breaks. Workers are hired to work. But employees—and employers—need to recognize physical and emotional limits.

Nation

House plan falls; Senate takes over

WASHINGTON (AP)—Time growing desperately short, Senate leaders took command of efforts to avert a Treasury default and end the partial government shutdown Tuesday night after a last big attempt by House Republicans abruptly collapsed.

Aides to both Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid and the Republican leader, Mitch McConnell, expressed revived optimism about chances for a swift agreement—by Wednesday at the latest—that could pass both houses. Their efforts toward a bipartisan resolution had seemed likely to bear fruit a day earlier before House conservative were given a last-minute chance for their version.

As hours ticked down toward Thursday's Treasury deadline, the likeliest compromise included renewed authority for the Treasury to borrow through early February and the government to reopen at least until mid-January.

While a day of secret meetings and frenzied maneuvering unfolded in all corners of the Capitol, Sen. Barbara Mikulski, D-Md., stood on the Senate floor at midafternoon and declared, "We are 33 hours away from becoming a deadbeat nation, not paying its bills to its own people and other creditors."

In New York, the stock market dropped and the Fitch rating agency warned that it was reviewing the government's AAA credit rating for a possible downgrade, though no action was near. The firm, one of the three leading U.S. credit-ratings agencies, said that "the political brinkmanship and reduced financing flexibility could increase the risk of a U.S. default."

According to Treasury Secretary Jacob Lew, unless Congress acts by Thursday, the government will lose its ability to borrow and will be required to meet its obligations relying only on cash on hand and incoming tax receipts. President Barack Obama and numerous other officials in government and finance have warned of severe economic consequences if federal obligations come due that can't be paid.

Police: Dry ice blasts at LA airport not terrorism

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Police said Tuesday they don't believe two dry ice explosions this week in restricted areas at Los Angeles International Airport were an act of terror, and they're pursuing the theory that the blasts were the work of a disgruntled employee.

The bombs were made by putting dry ice in 20-ounce plastic bottles and could have caused serious injury to anyone in close proximity, though no one was hurt, said Los Angeles Police Department Deputy Chief Michael Downing, who heads the department's counter-terrorism and special operations bureau. Police are treating them as seriously as if they were pipe bombs.

"Our intent is to find the person who did it, build a prosecutable case, and put them in jail," he said.

Investigators have not identified a suspect. They were interviewing employees Tuesday and requesting that anyone with information come forward.

Police believe the explosions were set off because of an internal labor dispute and not terrorism because of the locations of the devices and because people weren't targeted, Downing said.

One device exploded in an employee men's room Sunday night in Terminal 2. Remnants of an exploded bottle also were found that night on the tarmac area near the Tom Bradley International Terminal, but an employee threw it away. The same employee found an unexploded bottle Monday evening and then reported what he found the previous day.

Obama presents Afghan war vet with Medal of Honor

WASHINGTON (AP)—Four years after risking his life in Afghanistan, William D. Swenson solemnly received the Medal of Honor on Tuesday in a case of battlefield bravery with some odd twists: The young Army captain questioned the judgment of his superiors, and the paperwork nominating him for the award was lost. He left the military two years ago but wants to return to active duty, a rare move for a medal recipient.

AP

President Barack Obama awards the Medal of Honor to former Army Capt. William D. Swenson of Seattle, Wash., during a ceremony in the East Room at the White House in Washington, Tuesday, Oct. 15, 2013.

The nation's highest military honor—a sky blue ribbon and medal—was clasped around Swenson's neck by President Barack Obama at the White House. The president described how Swenson repeatedly exposed himself to enemy fire to recover fallen comrades and help save others during a battle against Taliban insurgents in the Ganjgal valley near the Pakistan border on Sept. 8, 2009. The fight claimed five Americans, 10 Afghan army troops and an interpreter.

Swenson is the second Medal of Honor recipient from that fight, just the second time in half a century that the medal has been awarded to two survivors of the same battle, Obama said. Two years ago, Obama presented the Medal of Honor to Marine Cpl. Dakota Meyer for heroic actions in the 2009 fight.

Obama noted that although America's highest military honor has been bestowed nearly 3,500 times, never before had the public been able to see any of the bravery it was designed to recognize. Video taken by the medevac crew's helmet cameras shows Swenson delivering a severely wounded soldier to the helicopter and kissing him on the head before returning to the heat of battle.

"A simple act of compassion and loyalty to a brother in arms," Obama said at the East Room ceremony attended by Swenson's parents, Julia and Carl, along with Vice President Joe Biden, first lady Michelle Obama, Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel and others.

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Asia

Death toll in PH quake at 110

CEBU, Philippines (AP)—The death toll from a 7.2-magnitude earthquake that struck the central Philippine island of Bohol reached 110 Wednesday with only three people pulled alive from rubble.

The three were rescued in nearby Cebu province hours after Tuesday's quake shattered office buildings and homes and caused many centuries-old churches to crumble.

In Bohol, the quake's epicenter, rescuers counted 100 dead, said regional military commander Lt. Gen. Roy Deveraturda. Cebu reported nine fatalities, and one died on another island.

There seems little hope of finding any large number of survivors from beneath the rubble of leveled buildings, homes and churches.

The small coastal town of Loon reported 20 fatalities, the highest in Bohol, including those buried in a hospital and a church.

Many roads and bridges were damaged, making rescue operations difficult. But historic churches dating from the Spanish colonial period suffered the most. The country's oldest, the 16th-century Basilica of the Holy Child in Cebu, lost its bell tower.

AP

This Tuesday, Oct. 15, 2013 photo shows a collapsed building in Bohol after a 7.2-magnitude earthquake struck the central Philippine island of Bohol in the morning.

Nearly half of a 17th-century limestone church in Loboc town, southwest of Carmen, was reduced to rubble, as was the largest church on the island in Loon town, where three worshippers were buried alive.

The entire province was without electricity after the quake cut power supplies.

Authorities set up tents for those displaced by the quake, while others who lost their homes moved in with their relatives, Bohol Gov. Edgardo Chatto said.

Extensive damage also hit densely populated Cebu city, across a narrow strait from Bohol, causing deaths when a building in the port and the roof of a market area collapsed.

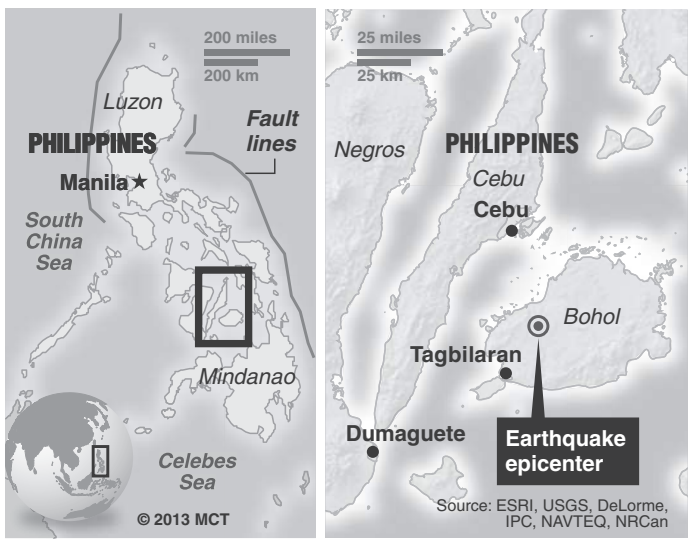
The quake set off two stampedes in nearby cities. When it struck, people gathered in a gym in Cebu rushed outside in a panic, crushing five people to death and injuring eight others, said Neil Sanchez, provincial disaster management officer.

"We ran out of the building, and outside, we hugged trees because the tremors were so strong," said Vilma Yorong, a provincial government employee in Bohol.

"When the shaking stopped, I ran to the street and there I saw several injured people. Some were saying their church has collapsed," she told The Associated Press by phone.

Offices and schools were closed for a national holiday—the Muslim festival of Eid al-Adha—which may have saved lives.

Aledel Cuizon said the quake that caught her in her bedroom sounded like "a huge truck that was approaching and the rumbling sound grew louder as it got closer."



ASIAN BRIEFS

13 dead, 50 missing as typhoon lashes Tokyo area

TOKYO (AP)—A powerful typhoon triggered landslides and caused at least 13 deaths on a Japanese island, before sweeping up the country's east coast, grounding hundreds of flights and paralyzing public transportation in Tokyo during Wednesday morning's rush hour. Officials on Izu Oshima island, about 120 kilometers (75 miles) south of Tokyo, said rescue workers found 13 bodies, most of them buried by mudslides. Dozens of homes were destroyed, and more than 50 people are missing. NHK public television showed rescue workers struggling to dig a woman out of a heap of debris as she shrieked in pain.

Cargo ship sinking off South Korea; 19 missing

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)—A Panamanian-flagged cargo ship was sinking Tuesday off South Korea's southeastern coast and all of its 19 crew members were missing, the coast guard said. The 8,461-ton ship had anchored off the port city of Pohang but high waves forced it against a seawall, South Korea's coast guard said in a statement. Coast guard officers said 18 Chinese and one Vietnamese were aboard the ship and were missing more than nine hours after the incident. The officers said most of the ship had sunk and rescue efforts were being hampered by strong winds and fierce waves.

Suspect in Myanmar hotel blast captured on CCTV

YANGON, Myanmar (AP)—A man arrested in the Myanmar hotel bombing that injured an American woman had been under surveillance for alleged involvement in the planting of a second device found at a restaurant the next morning, police said. Authorities moved in on Saw Myint Lwin, 26, after matching his photograph with images captured on the Traders Hotel closed circuit television camera, a statement issued by Mon state police on Tuesday. The 26-year-old rode his motorcycle through a barricade set up to apprehend him in Belin township, it said, but police caught up with him following a chase.

World

Iran presents nuclear proposals at Geneva talks

GENEVA (AP)—With PowerPoint slides and feel-good phrases, Iranian negotiators presented world powers on Tuesday with what they said was a plan to break a decade of deadlock over Tehran's nuclear program, declaring the time had come to end the country's "walk in the dark" of international isolation and crippling sanctions.

Neither Iran nor the six nations negotiating with it revealed details of the proposal. But their guarded comments indicated some progress had been made and a rare private meeting between Deputy Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi and the chief U.S. negotiator, Wendy Sherman, suggested a better tone compared to previous encounters.

Speaking in English, Iranian Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif outlined the proposal, entitled "An End to the Unnecessary Crisis and a Beginning for Fresh Horizons."

A member of one of the delegations meeting with Iran told The Associated Press the plan offered reductions in both the levels of uranium enrichment being conducted by Iran and the number of centrifuges doing the enrichment—a key demand of the six powers. He demanded anonymity because he was not authorized to divulge details.

Iran's state TV, which closely reflects government views, said Tehran offered to discuss uranium enrichment levels. The report also said Iran proposed adopting the additional protocols of the U.N.'s nuclear treaty—effectively opening its nuclear facilities to wider inspection and monitoring—if the West recognizes Iran's right to enrich uranium.

The Iranian presentation was followed in the afternoon by what European Union spokesman Michael Mann said were very detailed technical talks "for the first time." State Department spokeswoman Jen Psaki repeated the same phrase, saying that while it wasn't "a breakthrough at this stage ... it certainly is positive that there was enough information to have technical discussions."

Amnesty: Hundreds killed in detention in Nigeria

LAGOS, Nigeria (AP)—Hundreds of people are dying in military detention from shootings, suffocation or starvation as Nigeria's security forces crack down on an Islamic uprising in the northeast, Amnesty International said Tuesday.

More than 950 people died in military custody in the first six months of this year, according to "credible information" from a senior Nigerian army officer, the rights group said.

The Associated Press reported in August that hundreds of people detained by security forces in northern Nigeria have disappeared. The new Amnesty International report may help explain what happened to all those people—a horrifying result for their loved ones who are still searching for the missing.

Military and government officials did not immediately respond to phone calls and emails requesting their comments.

If the number of deaths in military custody cited by the Amnesty International is accurate, that means Nigeria's military has killed more civilians than the extremists did during the first half of 2013.

AP

In this picture dated Friday, April. 19, 2013 and released by Amnesty International, people look at bodies of civilians detained by Nigerian security forces as alleged members or associates of Boko haram terrorist network deposited by soldiers outside Sani Abacha Teaching Hospital morgue in Damaturu.

Amnesty International called for an urgent investigation.

Detainees "were reportedly shot in the leg during interrogations, provided no medical care and left to bleed to death," the London-based human rights group said in the report, which includes testimony from freed detainees.

The AP reported three months after President Goodluck Jonathan declared a state of emergency in the northeastern states of Adamawa, Borno and Yobe on May 14 that hundreds of people were being rounded up in night raids. The state of emergency gives a Joint Task Force of soldiers, police, intelligence and customs and immigration officials the right to detain people and move them from place to place, as well as the right to search without warrants.

Aid group calls for humanitarian access in Syria

BEIRUT (AP)—A general director of Doctors Without Borders called Tuesday for greater access for humanitarian aid to Syrians suffering in their country's civil war, and urged the international community to show the same urgency to help them as it did to address dismantling Syria's chemical weapons stockpile.

The Syrian conflict, which began as a largely peaceful uprising against President Bashar Assad in March 2011, has triggered a humanitarian crisis on a massive scale, killing more than 100,000 people, driving nearly 7 million more from their homes and devastating the nation's cities and towns. With the country now carved up into rebel- and regime-controlled areas, providing desperately needed food and medical aid has become a colossal—and dangerous—task.

"You have an industrial-scale war, but you have a very kind of small-scale humanitarian response," said Christopher Stokes, a general directors for Doctors Without Borders. "There is a recognition that greater humanitarian access is needed for life-saving assistance, but at the same time we don't see the mobilization."

The United Nations Security Council issued an appeal in early October for immediate access to all areas of the country to deliver humanitarian aid, including across conflict lines. Still, organizations that provide assistance continue to struggle to reach all the people who need it.

Focus

Lack of worker skills threatens EUROPEAN RECOVERY

AP

First grade university undergraduate students gather outside the Kapodistrian University in Athens on Wednesday, Oct. 9, 2013. University staff suspended all operations for the fourth week in protest at staff cuts.

PARIS (AP)—Andrea Ortiz, a 24-year-old Spaniard, has degrees in law and business yet works in a multinational clothing company as a store clerk. She has little hope of advancement and fears that when finally she does get a job she wants, she'll have no idea how to do it well.

"You arrive in class, they give you a book and they ask you to learn it, that's it. The teachers are very educated and well trained but I think that on many occasions they do not know how to transmit that knowledge," said Ortiz, who sells clothes at Zara in Madrid. "The day will come when I have to join a company and I won't know the basics of how an office works."

Her fears may be well-founded, according to a study released Tuesday that shows many countries in dire economic trouble have workforces that lack the skills needed to prompt an economic recovery.

In the first global study of adult skills, the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development interviewed 166,000 people from 24 countries and regions—a rich sample of people from all walks of life who agreed to sit down for tests that could last up to 90 minutes. The results from mostly industrialized countries offered a snapshot into how people of different ages are educated, work and adapt to a changing world.

It did not include China, India or Brazil, which are among the world's fastest developing countries.

"We're looking at decades of policy. We're looking across generations," said Stefano Scarpetta, the OECD's director for employment labor and social affairs.

Gong Juhui is the same age as Ortiz, but says the education and training she received in her native South Korea have given her a very different outlook. She graduated from a four-year college with a degree in social welfare. With about four hours of computing classes a week, she learned how to make websites and use complex graphics programs and felt confident and well prepared to start work.

Gong's first job, producing fundraising websites, required logic, planning and writing skills—all of which she learned at school and honed at work. She's since jumped to another career, confident of what the future holds. Her country's 3 percent unemployment rate is among the world's lowest.

Literacy, a facility with numbers and the ability to adapt to new technologies are among the strongest indicators of earning power. Without those skills, economists say, workers will find themselves unable to compete in a globalized world. And they are skills learned not just in schools but in the workplace and during time off.

Adults in Spain and Italy, two of the countries suffering the most in the European debt crisis and economic downturn, landed at the bottom of the list for proficiency in math and literacy among 16-to-65 year-olds. They also were near the bottom in the proportion of working-age adults with a minimal familiarity with computers. Both countries suffer from high unemployment—Spain has a 26.2 percent jobless rate, and over half of its workers younger than 25 are without employment. Italy's unemployment rate is just over 12 percent, with 40 percent of its young people looking for work.

The survey found that about one-in-four Spanish adults scored at the lowest levels of literacy and one-in-three at the lowest levels in numeracy. In contrast, Japanese and Dutch adults who were aged 25 to 34 yet only completed high school easily outperformed Italian or Spanish university graduates of the same age.

American workers fell well below the average in all categories.

"That is the kind of thing that makes me question—what are the longer term prospects of these countries to improve, to really get back at a trajectory of long-term stable growth?" said Jacob Kirkegaard, an economist with the Peterson Institute for International Economics.

Large portions of Italian and Spanish adults have minimal familiarity with computers—nearly one-in-four in Italy, and nearly one-in-five in Spain, a lack that will make it increasingly difficult to gain new skills.

Veronica Martinez, who graduated with an education degree, does market studies for a company and essentially had to learn what she knows on the job.

"I wouldn't be able to compare the level with other countries, but the impression I have is that the education system is worse in Spain," said Martinez, 28.

She added: "I don't know if the crisis is to blame, but were not prepared for the labor market. I studied to be a teacher and here I am working in something I don't know about. I have had to recycle myself totally for work."

An example of basic familiarity with numbers required respondents to read a thermometer: If the temperature shown decreased by 30 degrees, what would the new temperature be?

An example of basic problem solving asked respondents, who were looking at a simulated Internet environment, to find job sites that do not require registration or a fee, bookmark the sites and then navigate between them.

Although Japan and Finland came out on top in the survey by all measures, South Korea was the major success story. Older workers in Korea reported low levels of literacy and facility with math, but young people ranked at the top of the list—reflecting the country's enormous support for universal education after the 1950-53 Korean War.

Jeong Yeon-ja, who is 69 and the grandmother of 24-year-old Gong, dropped out of elementary school in the southern city of Daejeon after a year of studies. She knows how to read and write but is sorry that she could not learn more.

"Now that I am old, I have regrets. But I did not feel that way at the time ... Things were just difficult back then," Jeong said.

Gong said their different educational backgrounds present no intellectual barrier between her and her grandmother, but she sees it in the use of technology.

"I feel a difference when I see my grandmother using bank machines or a smartphone," she said.

Kirkegaard said he hoped that governments address the implications of the survey's sobering results, which were fairly dismal for Ireland and France as well—both countries that have suffered in the economic downturn. Figures for Greece were expected to be available next year.

"It's no longer enough to be smarter than your parents," he said. "If you want to have a job that earns more than minimum wage you have to have the skills that allow you to take advantage of technology ... because if you don't, you're going to be in a situation where technology is going to replace you."

"Literacy, a facility with numbers, and the ability to adapt to new technologies are among the strongest indicators of earning power. Without those skills, workers will find themselves unable to compete in a globalized world. And they are skills learned not just in schools but in the workplace and during time off."

FIRST YEAR DEATH ANNIVERSARY

In Loving Memory of

Antonia Chong Villagomez

We, the family, humbly invite all our relatives and friends to join us in prayers as we commemorate the passing of our dearly beloved Antonia unto eternal life.

Daily Mass and Lisayo will be offered at St. Jude Church beginning on October 20 through October 28, 2013. The schedule will be as follows:

Sunday, October 20 - 8:00 a.m. Mass, 5:00 p.m. Lisayo
Monday, October 21 to Friday, October 25 - 6:00 p.m. Mass immediately followed by Lisayo
Saturday, October 26 - 7:00 a.m. Mass immediately followed by Lisayo
Sunday, October 27 - 9:00 a.m. Mass, 5:00 p.m. Lisayo

On Monday, October 28, the Lisayo will be held at 12:00 p.m. at the family home of Andresina Chong Villagomez and Mass will be celebrated at 6:00 p.m. at St. Jude Church. Following the Mass, dinner will be served at the family home in As Perdido.

Your presence, thoughts, and prayers are greatly appreciated.
Si Yu'us Ma'ase and Thank You.

Andresina Chong Villagomez and Family

In Loving Memory

MOHANDAS SIRUMAL HEMLANI

(Bharti Gift Shop)

September 21, 1957 - October 12, 2013

Son of late Mr. & Mrs. Sirumal & Samibai Hemlani

He is survived by:
Wife: Bhawna M. Hemlani
Sons: Jagdish M. Hemlani, Pavan M. Hemlani

Brothers and Sisters-In-Laws:
Narayandas & Chandra Hemlani (India)
Madhav (Mark) & Maya Hemlani (Hawaii)
Madan (Mike) & Lata Hemlani (Guam)

Sisters and Brothers-In-Laws:
Gyanchand & Lajwanti Sachdev (India)
Raju & Sangeeta Changulani (India)
Dinesh & Dhunwanti Tekwani (India)

"O Lord, O Ruler of the Shining Ones, compassionate to those who seek refuge,--in this terrible world of change, in the unsubstantial, in all deep miseries."

Garuda – Chapter XVI

He will also be missed by numerous nephews and nieces, relatives and friends of the CNMI, Guam and around the world.

On Thursday, October 17, 2013 a Public Viewing will be held at the Nuestra Señora dela Paz Memorial Chapel, Saipan, at 3:00PM – 4:00PM. In the evening his remains will be flown to Guam.

On Saturday, October 19, 2013, Public Viewing will be held at the Ada Funeral Home, Guam at 3:00PM – 5:00PM. Cremation of his remains will follow immediately thereafter.

Your thoughts and prayers are greatly appreciated

The Family

Environment

Akron Zoo's new octopus latches onto name 'Nani'

ED SUBA JR./AKRON BEACON JOURNAL/MCT

The new, but nameless, female giant Pacific octopus at the Akron Zoo picks a name for herself as she grabs one of three toy pumpkins with the name "Nani" on it, October 10, 2013, in Akron, Ohio.

By KATHY ANTONIOTTI
AKRON BEACON JOURNAL

AKRON, Ohio—The Akron Zoo's new giant Pacific octopus made no bones about claiming as her own a name that means "beautiful" in Thursday's final act of a naming contest that had netted 1,400 suggestions.

The 10-pound female octopus that reaches about 4 feet long from "tip to tip" grasped the first of three small pumpkins to slip out of a larger plastic jack-o'-lantern. She kept the one that read "Nani"—the perfect Hawaiian word to describe her—before discarding the rest.

"She grabbed it and held onto it for 15 or 20 minutes," aquatic keeper Steve Balogh said.

Zookeepers narrowed the name choices to three for the octopus that arrived from Vancouver, British Columbia, in July. The other choices were Jet, because it describes the way an octopus moves by way of jet propulsion, and Ollie, because it was one of the top vote-getters in the contest.

Each small pumpkin bore one of the names and contained a shrimp as a treat to entice the octopus to explore her options.

Apparently the lady has a mind of her own. While all she needed to do was touch her choice first, she made sure everyone knew her preference by holding on to it.

"She took the lids off the pumpkins to get the shrimp. Once she got them out, she let the others go," Balogh said.

Nani arrived in Akron shortly after the zoo's resident octopus, Cora, died of old age.

Cora had been the first octopus in the Journey to the Reef exhibit, making her debut in a 300-gallon aquatic tank in the Komodo Kingdom Education Center in May 2012. She gained international attention when the zoo held a naming contest for her last summer.

Nani is not quite as feisty as Cora, who appeared to lie in wait for her keepers to stand above her tank before shooting a tentacle out of the water to grab them, Balogh said.

But Nani is starting to come out of her shell, so to speak, he said.

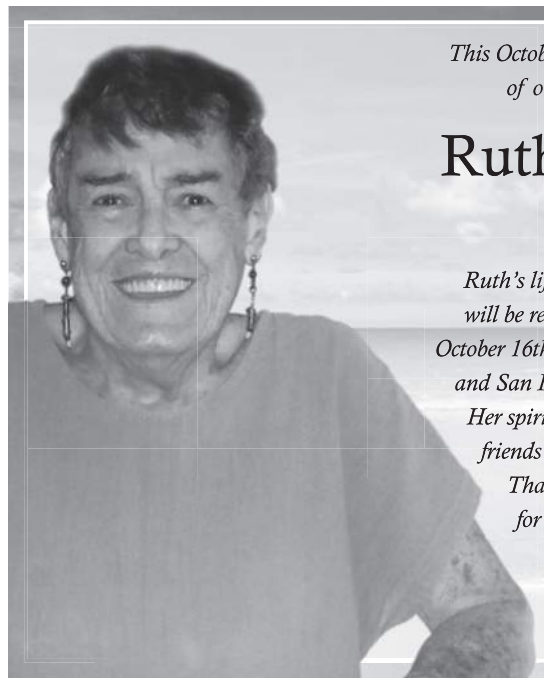
"She grabbed my arm this morning and sprayed me, probably because she was frustrated that I was up there so much today." Balogh said.

Those behaviors are their way to explore surroundings and feel new textures and surfaces, he said.

Giant Pacific octopuses can be found in the Northern Pacific Ocean from Southern California, north along the coast of North America's Pacific Northwest and south to Japan. They live in rocky areas, caves and kelp forests, from the shores to depths of more than 500 feet. They eat fish, shrimp, crabs, scallops and other shellfish.

On Thursday, Nani moved close to the wall of her tank as if to acknowledge Linda Criss, vice president of communications, who was touching the glass of the exhibit.

"They begin to recognize their keepers after a while," Balogh said.



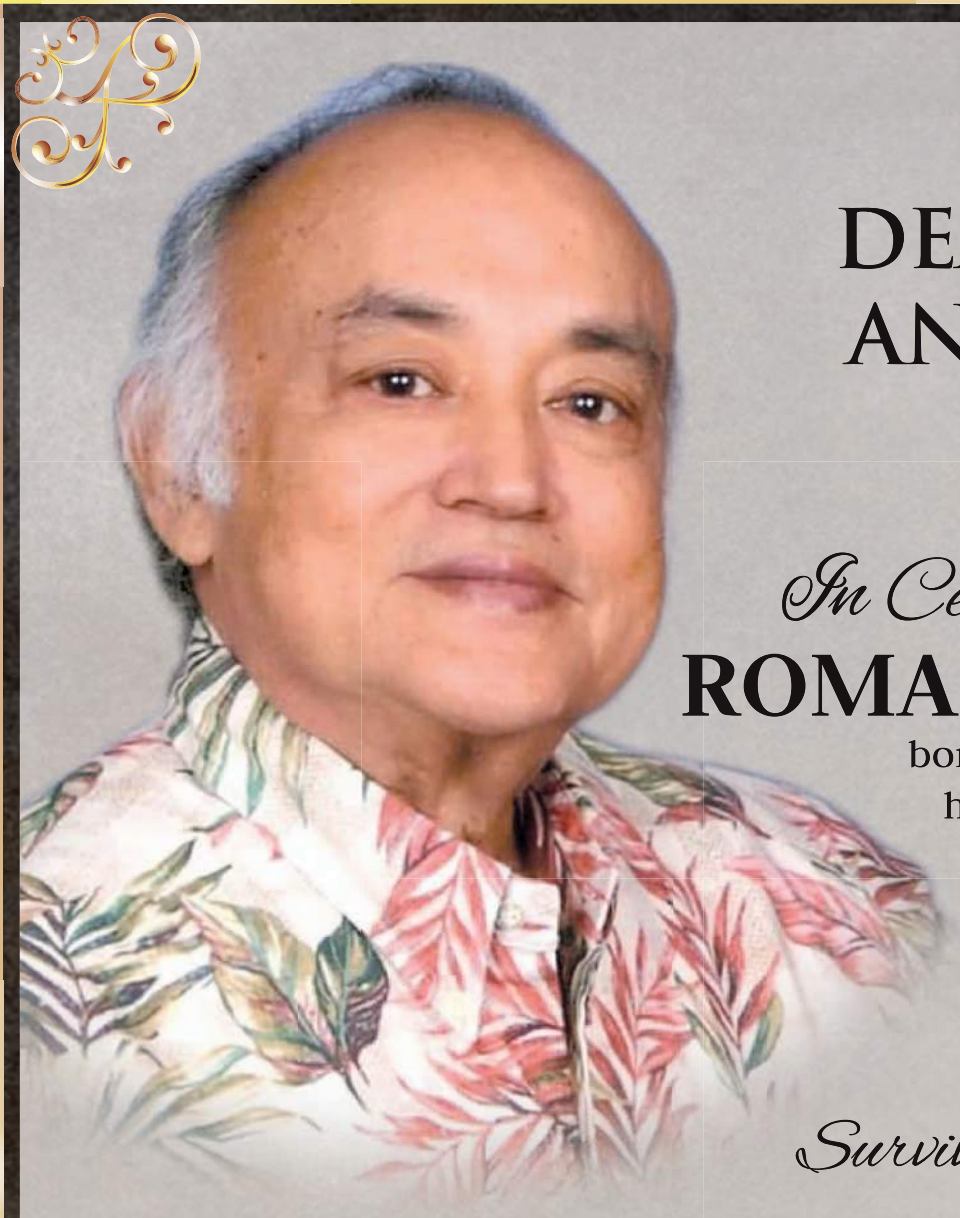
This October 17th marks the first anniversary of the passing of our beloved mother, sister and grandmother,

Ruth Liepmann Tighe

from this earth.

Ruth's life, her spirit, and her love of her adopted island will be remembered in the masses offered on Wednesday, October 16th at Santa Remedios Church, Tanapag at 6:00pm, and San Roque Church on Thursday, Oct 17th at 6:00pm. Her spirit lives on in the hearts of her family and many friends throughout the world whom she has touched. Thank you for your kind thoughts and prayers for Ruth and your friendship and support of her during her life here.

The Family of Ruth L. Tighe



DEATH & FUNERAL ANNOUNCEMENT

In Celebration of His New Life

ROMAN SABLAN PALACIOS

born on October 16, 1945 and called to
his eternal rest on October 10, 2013

Survived by:

Wife: **Patricia Tenorio Palacios**

Children:
Trish T. Palacios
Christopher T. Palacios & Jaime Kapileo (Nathan, Lorenza & Peter)
Jose T. Palacios (Pingko)
Patty P. & Charles McDonald (Charlie, Ray Patrick & Joshua)
Roman (Bo) T. Palacios

Brothers, Sisters & In-Laws:

Jesusa P. & Joaquin M. Iglecias & Family
George S. & Lydia R. Palacios & Family
Antonia P. & Jay J. Corral & Family
Darlene P. Macaranas & Family
David S. & Margarita M. Palacios & Family
Anuncia S. Palacios & Adam Mazon & Family
Jesse S. & Mylyn J. Palacios & Family
Jesus R. & Annie T. Sablan & Family
Clarence T. Tenorio & Family
Norman T. & Keli A. Tenorio & Family
Frances T. Demapan & Family
Joseph R. Guzman & Priscilla T. Tenorio & Family

Predeceased by:

Son:	Ray Patrick Tenorio Palacios	*Mother-in-Law:*	Soledad Takai Tenorio
Father:	Jesus Muna Palacios	*Sister:*	Rita Sablan Palacios
Mother:	Anunciasion Sablan Palacios	*Brothers-in Law:*	Miguel Sablan Demapan
Father-in-Law:	Jose Camacho Tenorio		Sidney George Quan
			Richard Iglecias Macaranas

Mass is being said daily at 6:00 a.m. and rosary is at 7:00 p.m. at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Cathedral.
Funeral is scheduled for Friday, October 18, 2013. Public viewing will be held at 8:00 a.m. and the mass of Christian burial will be at 11:00 a.m. at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Cathedral followed by interment and burial at the Chalan Kanoa cemetery.

Un Dangkulo na Si Yu'us Ma'ase and Thank you

Patricia T. Palacios, Children & Family

Eleanor Catton wins fiction's Booker Prize

LONDON (AP)—Youth and heft triumphed at Britain's Booker Prize on Tuesday, as 28-year-old New Zealander Eleanor Catton won the fiction award for "The Luminaries," an ambitious 832-page murder mystery set during a 19th-century gold rush.

The choice should give heart to young authors of oversized tales. Catton is the youngest writer and only the second New Zealander to win the prestigious award—and her epic novel is easily the longest Booker champion.

Catton said after accepting the award that she didn't think about the length of the book while she was writing it, "partly because I was inside it for the whole time."

"It wasn't until I received the proof of the book that I thought, 'Jeepers, this is actually quite heavy,'" she said. "I've had to buy a new handbag, because my old handbag wasn't big enough to hold my book."

She thanked her British publisher, Granta, for protecting her from feeling the commercial pressures around a tome that could be seen as "a publisher's nightmare."

Travel writer Robert Macfarlane, who chaired the judging panel, called "The Luminaries" "dazzling," "luminous" and "vast without being sprawling."

"It is beautifully intricate without being fussy," Macfarlane said. "It is experimental ... but does not by any means neglect the traditional virtues of storytelling."

AP

New Zealand author Eleanor Catton poses after being announced the winner of the Man Booker Prize for Fiction, holding her prize for the photographers, in central London, Tuesday Oct. 15, 2013.

Catton had been bookmakers' joint favorite among the six prize finalists, alongside British novelist Jim Crace, for his rural parable "The Harvest." She also beat Ireland's Colm Toibin, Indian-American writer Jhumpa Lahiri, Zimbabwe's NoViolet Bulawayo and Canada's Ruth Ozeki.

Catton received her trophy, which comes with a 50,000 pound ($80,000) check, from Prince Charles' wife, Camilla, the Duchess of Cornwall, during a dinner ceremony at London's medieval Guildhall.

"The Luminaries" centers on a man named Walter Moody who comes to a New Zealand prospecting town in 1866 and finds himself immersed in a web of saloons, seances and skullduggery.

The book's elaborate narrative is structured according to astrological charts: It consists of 12 sections, each half the length of the last, from a 360-page opener to a final chapter of a single page.

Macfarlane said the novel "takes place in a culture which is utterly capitalized" and focused on money, but also dwells on tenderness and love.

He said the panel of five judges met for two hours—brief by Booker standards—to choose the winner, which was decided without a vote. "No blood was spilled in the judging," he said.

Catton, who was 25 when she started writing the book and 27 when she finished it, has published just one previous novel. Now she has won a prize that brings a huge boost in profile, publicity and sales, and whose laureates include V.S. Naipaul, Margaret Atwood, Julian Barnes and Hilary Mantel.

The only previous New Zealand winner is Keri Hulme, who took the Booker in 1985 for "The Bone People."

New Zealand Prime Minister John Key said Catton's victory was "a hugely significant achievement on the world stage for a New Zealander."

Macfarlane said Catton's youth did not influence the judges, and Catton said she felt "honored and proud to be living in a world where the facts of somebody's biography doesn't get in the way of how people read their work."

This is the last year that the Booker—founded in 1969 and officially named the Man Booker Prize after its sponsor, financial services firm Man Group PLC—will be open only to writers from Britain, Ireland and the Commonwealth of former British colonies.

Beginning next year, Americans and other English-language writers will be able to enter as well.

The rule change aims to expand the global scope of the Booker even further, although some fear it may alter the delicate chemistry of the prize.

Macfarlane said "The Luminaries" was a fitting winner—"a global novel that is always intensely local."

And its sheer size—eight times the length of Toibin's 104-page "The Testament of Mary"—had an added benefit for the judges.

"Those of us who didn't read it on e-readers enjoyed a full upper-body workout," Macfarlane said.

Tina Fey, Amy Poehler back as Golden Globes hosts

NEW YORK (AP)—The duo of Tina Fey and Amy Poehler proved such a success at hosting the Golden Globes in January that they've been signed up for the same job for the next two years.

NBC, the Hollywood Foreign Press Association and producers of the Golden Globes announced the unusual two-year commitment on Tuesday. Next year's Golden Globes will be held in Beverly Hills, Calif., on Jan. 12.

Allen Shapiro, CEO of Dick Clark Productions, said the former "Saturday Night Live" chums have "a truly unique chemistry making them one of the most talented and captivating pairings of all time."

They were bathed in critical love for their performance this year, with Associated Press critic Frazier Moore calling them "the night's biggest winners." They got laughs without being polarizing, as was the case with predecessor Ricky Gervais. Poehler even poked fun during the show at the Hollywood debate over whether Gervais was too hard-edged in mocking Hollywood stars.

"We want to assure you that we have no intention of being edgy or offensive tonight," said Poehler, star of the NBC sitcom "Parks and Recreation." "Because, as Ricky learned the hard way, when you run afoul of the Hollywood Foreign Press, they make you host this show two more times!"

Fey, whose NBC comedy "30 Rock" ended this year, and Poehler were both nominated for best actress in a comedy or musical but lost to Lena Dunham, star of HBO's "Girls."

"Last year was really fun," Poehler said in an interview with the Hollywood Foreign Press Association. "We didn't know what to expect. It was exciting to work with Tina, as always, and it was a strange experience. We had a lot of fun so we said maybe we can try it again and like fools we are giving it another shot."

More important than critical support, Fey and Poehler were good for business. The Golden Globes had their best ratings in six years for the most recent presentation, and were up 17 percent over the 2012 show.

An updated 'Carrie' for the digital age

LOS ANGELES (AP)—"Carrie" is going viral.

In the new take on the supernatural coming-of-age story out Friday, beleaguered high school student Carrie White's torment doesn't merely occur within the gym showers or on stage at the prom. It's also online, one of a few modern updates dropped into filmmaker Kimberly Peirce's reimagining of the landmark 1974 novel by Stephen King.

There are references to the "Today" show and "Dancing with the Stars," tunes from Passion Pit and Krewella playing at the prom and Carrie (Chloe Grace Moretz) searching about her burgeoning telekinetic powers online. Outside the movie, "Carrie" is also being marketed with a hidden camera stunt that's racked up nearly 40 million views on YouTube.

However, the most profound use of technology in this contemporary "Carrie" occurs while she's antagonized.

"It's how you raise your story to the level of myth," said Peirce, who previously directed "Boys Don't Cry" and "Stop-Loss." "Too much specificity is a bore. I thought the characters needed to have cellphones, but they should probably only use them a few times. Otherwise, we're beating the audience over the head with it. That's why it was carefully chosen."

The shy outcast isn't only ridiculed by fellow students when she experiences her first menstruation—and doesn't know what's happening—after gym class. The moment is also captured on a smartphone and later uploaded to the Internet by mean girl Chris Hargensen (Portia Doubleday). It's played again on screens during their prom after bullies dump pig's blood on the teen.

This isn't just Carrie 4.0 though.

Moretz—who at 16, is the same age as the titular character—believes the broadcast of the digital video amplifies the internal rage of this version of the introverted young woman, who's been sheltered throughout her life by her religiously fanatical mother Margaret (Julianne Moore). It's a new reading of the tale that's spawned three movies and a Broadway musical.

"When that blood is dropped on her, I do think she would've walked away if that video had not been put up on the screen," said Moretz. "I do think she would have walked out of that gym, gone home, cried and been fine—figured her life and moved back into her shell. Without the video, I don't think the telekinesis would've taken over her body."

When it came to filming that iconic scene, which has been endlessly imitated and parodied in the decades since director Brian De Palma's "Carrie" debuted in 1976, Moretz said she was showered with phony blood just twice. The bigger challenge for the young "Kick-Ass" and "Hugo" actresses was unleashing a totally new interpretation of the classic cinematic moment.

"I had to forget about all that," said Moretz. "As an actor, I just needed to live in my character and not think about Sissy Spacek's performance or how this is an iconic scene or anything like that. Carrie is Carrie. She doesn't know blood is going to be dropped on her. She just won prom queen and thinks her life is going to turn around for the better now."

With the aid of computer-generated effects, the blood-soaked mayhem Carrie wreaks is certainly more expansive than De Palma's original "Carrie" film, as well as the 1999 sequel and a 2002 made-for-TV movie. Peirce was tasked with balancing expectations of both "Carrie" fans and modern moviegoers—without turning Carrie into one of the X-Men or Transformers.

AP

This photo released by Sony Pictures shows Gabriella Wilde, left, and Chloe Moretz in Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Pictures and Screen Gems' film, "Carrie."

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CLOUDY WITH A CHANCE OF MEATBALLS 2 3D [CC] (PG) (445 PM)
INSIDIOUS: CHAPTER 2 [CC] (PG-13) (430 PM) 700 PM
THE GRANDMASTER (PG-13) (420 PM) 710 PM
PERCY JACKSON: SEA OF MONSTERS [CC] (PG) (425 PM)

Times For 10/17 © 2013www.REGmovies.com

Nirvana, Ronstadt among Rock Hall of Fame noms

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP)—Nirvana, Linda Ronstadt, Peter Gabriel, Hall and Oates, and The Replacements are among first-time nominees to the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame.

The hall of fame announced its annual list of nominees Wednesday morning and half the field of 16 were first-time nominees. YES, Link Wray and The Zombies also received their first nominations.

More than 600 voters will determine the class of 2014. Inductees will be announced in December and a ceremony will be held next April in New York. The induction will be aired on HBO in May.

Nirvana is nominated in its first year of eligibility. If selected for induction, the band would enter the hall of fame almost exactly 20 years after frontman Kurt Cobain's suicide at age 27.

Ronstadt receives her first nomination not long after she shared news that she has Parkinson's disease. Fans have long questioned her absence from the hall's roster of stars. Similarly, long-denied YES joins the list after Rush finally struck a blow for prog rock with its induction earlier this year.

Repeat nominees are KISS, LL Cool J, N.W.A., Cat Stevens, Deep Purple, The Meters, The Paul Butterfield Blues Band and Chic. It's the eighth nomination for Chic since 2003, but comes as cofounder Nile Rodgers is enjoying widespread attention after his collaboration with Daft Punk earlier this year.

KISS, LL Cool J and Stevens return to the list after absences of several years.

AP

Members of the band Nirvana shown in a 1991 file photo, from left, Krist Novoselic, David Grohl, and Kurt Cobain.

Alec Baldwin reads at tribute to Philip Roth

NEW YORK (AP)—As he prepared to read from the Philip Roth novel "The Plot Against America" on Tuesday, Alec Baldwin looked to the table on his left and checked out the author's photos on the Roth books arranged in a semicircle.

"Look how handsome he is," Baldwin said of the dark-eyed novelist, famous for such ribald fiction as "Portnoy's Complaint" and "Sabbath's Theater."

"If I looked like that, I would have written books with a lot of sex in them, too," Baldwin said.

Baldwin and fellow actors John Rothman and Paul Carlin were featured at a free midday event in Manhattan, reading from three Roth novels: "The Plot Against America," "Portnoy's Complaint" and the Pulitzer Prize-winning "The Plot Against America." Hundreds gathered at Temple Emanu-El for a tribute co-sponsored by the Library of America, which publishes hardcover editions of classic literature, and by the cultural advocacy project Toward International Peace Through the Arts (TIPA).

While the 80-year-old Roth is the only living novelist to have all his work released by the Library of America and has received more than a table's worth of prizes, a temple seemed an unlikely setting for praise. Roth is a longtime non-believer whose books were often criticized by Jews for reinforcing Jewish stereotypes.

But the day's first speaker, Rabbi Joshua Davidson, spoke warmly of Roth and the author himself had planned to attend before falling ill last week. Still recovering from an infection, Roth sent a note of apology, lamenting that a "microbe made a deal with my intestine and knocked me down."

Roth added, "Down, but not out."

Minaj channels high-end faves for affordable line

AP

Nicki Minaj launches her fashion line at KMART on Tuesday, Oct. 15, 2013, in Los Angeles.

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Nicki Minaj knows celebrities-turned-designers aren't always taken seriously in the fashion world, but she doesn't mind.

At a launch event Tuesday for her Kmart collection, Minaj said skepticism of stars lacking formal design training is "understandable," but she insists it's "not about being a designer."

The "Starships" rapper says her intention is simply to make clothes that she would love to wear.

The line for Kmart and shopyourway.com features midriff-baring tops, patterned leggings and curve-hugging dresses, as well as jewelry, clutches and bejeweled caps.

There's also a pink velour track suit and a faux fur trapper hat.

Minaj says Chanel, Versace and Herve Leger were among her inspirations.

Prices range from $3.99 for a studded bracelet to $37.99 for a light wash, denim jacket.

Hillary Clinton honored for her work on HIV/AIDS

NEW YORK (AP)—Elton John has honored Hillary Rodham Clinton for her work to help those affected by HIV/AIDS at an annual event for his foundation.

Clinton was excited as she accepted the first founders award from the Elton John AIDS Foundation Tuesday night in New York City. The former secretary of state told the crowd at Cipriani's restaurant that "we still have so far to go" when it comes to helping those affected by HIV/AIDS.

Billy Joel, Alec Baldwin and New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo also attended the black tie event. Recent Rock and Roll Hall of Famers Heart performed a dozen songs.

John's foundation is celebrating its 20th year. The pop icon says he will continue to be "stubborn" when it comes to finding ways to help those affected by AIDS.

Belafonte sues Martin Luther King Jr. estate in NY

NEW YORK (AP)—Harry Belafonte sued the estate of Martin Luther King Jr. Tuesday over the fate of three documents he tried to sell at auction.

The lawsuit in federal court in Manhattan seeks unspecified damages and a court declaration Belafonte is the rightful owner.

The documents are an outline of a Vietnam War speech by King, notes to a speech King never got to deliver in Memphis, Tenn., and a condolence letter from President Lyndon B. Johnson to King's wife after the civil rights leader's 1968 assassination.

According to the lawsuit, Belafonte was preparing to auction the items in 2008 when the estate "astonishingly" blocked it.

The lawsuit cited the close relationship between Belafonte and King, saying the pair "worked on strategies and collaborated on issues that would transform American society" while they "forged a deep and enduring personal friendship." It said King and his widow, Coretta Scott King, gave Belafonte a number of items and it noted that Coretta Scott King, who died in 2006, mentioned Belafonte in her autobiography, saying "whenever we got into trouble or when tragedy struck, Harry has always come to our aid, his generous heart wide open."

Only time can truly heal pain of losing beloved pets

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby

DEAR ABBY: You gave some nice advice to "Afraid of the Loss" (June 25), who wrote concerning the impending death of a beloved pet. I think your suggestion of a support group is helpful, but having lost a pet I had for 16 years, I have experienced the deep pain this man will feel.

Adding a second pet to his home while his pet is still alive often energizes an older pet. When the time comes, it will help the human to have another loving pet to help with the grieving.

As I learned, only time was able to take the deep hurt to a place where I could think of him without tears. Keeping the ashes of a pet can be comforting, whether you choose to bury them later or tuck them away in your home.

Most important is having a plan for when that moment comes so you automatically know what needs to be done. It really helped to have all the details of his final moments thought out so I felt in control.

I wouldn't have missed the love of my dog even knowing the pain that has to come in the end. It's something that should be on everyone's bucket list.

CATHY IN CALIFORNIA

DEAR CATHY: My thanks to you and all the readers who sent heartfelt letters supporting "Afraid." It's easy to see why dogs are called man's best friend because of all the love, affection, entertainment and companionship they give us, and why we only want the best for them in this life and after. Read on:

DEAR ABBY: Your pet is your child. Anyone who doesn't understand that isn't worth worrying about when the loss occurs. Will it hurt? Of course. But the pain does ease in time.

When my first dog died, I spoke with a grief counselor at the local veterinary college. It didn't make my pain disappear, but it helped me to understand it more. Your pet does not live in the future, but in the moment. Enjoy every moment you have together and accept the unconditional love your pet has given you. You WILL get through it.

DEB IN BELMONT, MICH.

DEAR ABBY: Having shared the love of many pets over the years, I have found that dealing with the loss of our furry friends never gets easier, no matter how many times you go through it. I just reflect on all the cherished times I shared with them, and I know I did my best to make their lives grand. I know I'm better off for having shared their company.

Having rescued all of my past and current pets from shelters, I saved them from an uncertain life. I gave them a loving home with affection, stability and a warm bed. While they all leave us at some point, their memory lives on in our hearts.

I think Irving Townsend said it best: "We who choose to surround ourselves with lives even more temporary than our own, live within a fragile circle, easily and often breached. Unable to accept its awful gaps, we would still live no other way. We cherish memory as the only certain immortality, never fully understanding the necessary plan."

FOUR PAWS FATHER

DEAR ABBY: "Afraid of the Loss" is not alone. Anyone who has known the love of a dog knows the fear of losing that unmatched companionship.

When my dog was reaching the end of his lifespan, a fellow dog-lover advised me to get a puppy. I'm passing her advice along to "Afraid." Get a puppy or go to the shelter and adopt a dog—any dog. You will save the dog, and the dog will save you right back.

MONIQUE IN TEXAS

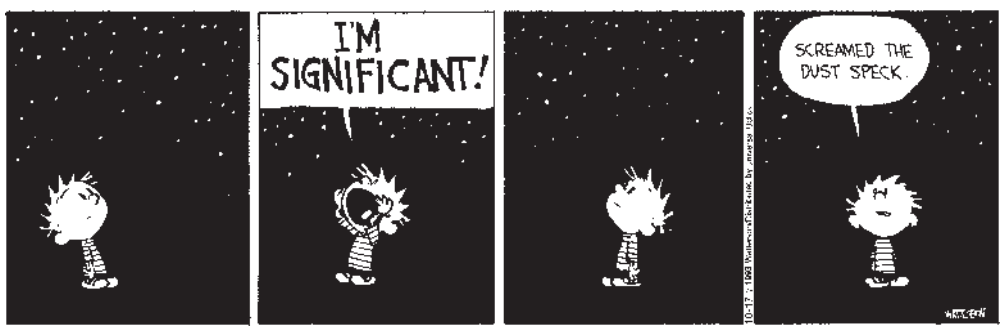
Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

For everything you need to know about wedding planning, order "How to Have a Lovely Wedding." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for $7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Wedding Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

Pastimes

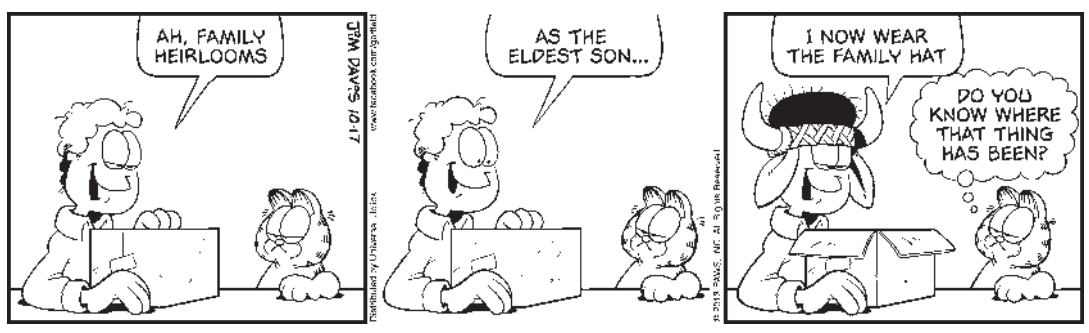
Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson



Garfield®

By Jim Davis

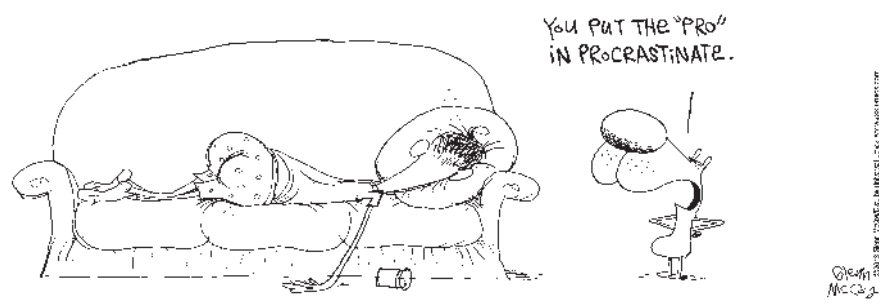


Adam@home

By Bryan Basset

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS
1 Census data
5 Existed
8 Pinnacle
12 Slight impact
13 Blond shade
14 Sad fate
15 Opera show-stopper
16 Coll. transcript stat
17 Hostels
18 Anatomical sacs
20 Coral structure
22 Biblical
26 Huge nail
29 Vast expanse
30 Sapporo sash
31 Compassion
32 Pistol
33 Use scissors
34 Had a meal
35 Candy with iconic dispensers
36 Light bulb measures
37 Pertaining to buildings
40 As well
41 Suitable for consumption
45 Ashtray item
47 Energy
49 Hebrew month
50 Addict
51 Historic period
52 "Peter Pan" pooch
53 Arp's art
54 Knock
55 Compared to

DOWN
1 Simple rhyme scheme
2 Mentor
3 Mideast ruler
4 1972 Fischer foe
5 Bet
6 Cleo's killer
7 Whet
8 Farewell
9 Discuss something
10 Calendar abbr.
11 Type squares
19 High card
21 Greek vowel
23 Japanese automaker
24 Slightly
25 Places for gloss
26 Hot tubs
27 Actor Brad
28 Repeated
32 Reconcile oneself to
33 Important
35 Macs' alternatives
36 Bankroll
38 Extreme
39 Change the chart
42 Mediocre
43 Moth named for the moon
44 Verve
45 Future flower
46 "Suits" airer
48 Savings plan acronym

Solution time: 25 mins.

		J	A	M			F	O	B			
	F	A	L	A		B	A	R	E	S		
D	E	P	O	T		E	T	E	R	N	E	
S	T	A	T	I	O	N	W	A	G	O	N	S
T	A	N		N	A	I	A	D		O	N	E
			I	E	R	N			S	I	U	N
	S	P	I	E	S		Q	U	A	S	I	
A	C	E	S				J	U	N	O		
I	O	G		S	K	F	I	N		D	N	A
P	O	L	I	C	E	S	T	A	T	I	O	N
	P	E	D	A	N	T		M	I	X	E	D
		G	E	L	D	S		E	N	O	S	
			A	D	O			D	A	N		

Yesterday's answer 10-17

1	2	3	4	■	5	6	7	■	8	9	10	11
12				■	13			■	14			
15				■	16			■	17			
18				19		■	20	21			■	■
■	■	■	22			23					24	25
26	27	28			■	29			■	30		
31				■	32			■	33			
34			■	35			■	36				
37			38				39			■	■	■
■	■	40				■	41			42	43	44
45	46			■	47	48		■	49			
50					51				52			
53				■	54				55			

STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955**! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Eminem, 41; Wyclef Jean, 44; Rob Marshall, 53; Alan Jackson, 55.

Happy Birthday: Give and you will receive. Your intense way of dealing with whatever arises will work to your benefit. Focus and fair play will lead to the winner's circle. Your ability to adapt and restructure will enable you to accomplish and entice others to follow your example. Open your heart, forget past mistakes and move forward without regret. Your numbers are 3, 12, 17, 24, 35, 43, 47.

ARIES (*March 21-April 19*): Talk matters through if something concerns you. You are better off finding out exactly where you stand within a relationship than overreacting about something you aren't sure about. Keep your life simple and your questions direct. Love is on the rise. ✪✪✪

TAURUS (*April 20-May 20*): Put travel plans at the top of your list. Schedule a visit with someone you love or who can help you advance. Take action and make things happen, and you will get good results and gain respect. ✪✪✪

GEMINI (*May 21-June 20*): Offer help and suggestions to those showing uncertainty or confusion. Don't limit yourself to one vocation. Consider what you enjoy doing and what you are good at and look for a position that suits your criteria. A change regarding a relationship looks positive. ✪✪✪✪

CANCER (*June 21-July 22*): Emotional matters will be difficult to control. Refrain from making snap decisions because someone is goading you into doing so. Think matters through and take whatever route suits you. Take a unique approach to life and you'll feel enlightened. ✪✪

LEO (*July 23-Aug. 22*): Embrace the things you enjoy doing most. Love is on the rise, and romance should be part of your evening plans. Don't let someone's negativity drag you down. Take care of your responsibilities early and enjoy the rest of your day. ✪✪✪✪✪

VIRGO (*Aug. 23-Sept. 22*): Talks will lead to opportunities. Seek out what you need to know and make a point of doing your due diligence to make your dreams come true. Don't let an emotional relationship or situation at home stand between you and success. ✪✪✪

LIBRA (*Sept. 23-Oct. 22*): Say what's on your mind. Keeping the peace can be stressful if nothing improves. Do whatever it takes to spend time with people who build you up instead of knocking you down. Repeat what's worked for you in the past. ✪✪✪

SCORPIO (*Oct. 23-Nov. 21*): Gauge your time and consider how you can best use your knowledge and experience to encourage the results you want to achieve. A force play can be expected concerning an emotional situation regarding someone dependent on you. Act in everyone's best interest. ✪✪✪

SAGITTARIUS (*Nov. 22-Dec. 21*): Plan to have some fun, but don't take a risk when it comes to physical situations, challenges or activities. Love is highlighted, but showing off isn't likely to go according to plan. Stick close to home and fix up your space. ✪✪✪✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (*Dec. 22-Jan. 19*): A sudden change someone makes is likely to upset you. Don't let your emotions take over. Stay calm and use your reason, common sense and past experience to get your way. Protect your assets. ✪✪

AQUARIUS (*Jan. 20-Feb. 18*): Form an alliance with someone you work with or want to do business with in the future. Listen carefully and learn. Positive results will unfold if you share past experience and maintain equal control of the situation and the possibilities. ✪✪✪✪

PISCES (*Feb. 19-March 20*): Don't spend money on unnecessary items or activities. The focus should be on bringing money, not spending. Look for deals that will help you raise your assets or will lead to greater earning potential. Expand your knowledge and your friendships. ✪✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are outgoing, entertaining and imaginative. You are unpredictable and fun-loving.

*Eugenia's website—**eugenialast.com**, Eugenia's android app @ **http://bit.ly/exhoro** and join Eugenia on **twitter/facebook/linkedin**.*

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

			8		6	7		
			7			1		
1	7	9				3		
9							5	1
8	3							6
		1				8	9	4
		4			7			
		3	5		8			

Difficulty Level ★★★ 10/17

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer

9	4	7	2	8	5	6	3	1
5	8	1	3	7	6	2	4	9
2	3	6	9	1	4	5	8	7
6	9	3	5	4	7	8	1	2
4	1	2	6	9	8	3	7	5
7	5	8	1	3	2	4	9	6
1	6	4	7	5	3	9	2	8
8	2	9	4	6	1	7	5	3
3	7	5	8	2	9	1	6	4

Difficulty Level ★★★ 10/17

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WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and **CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD.** The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

THRIFT SHOPS Solution: 8 letters

E	L	A	S	E	R	S	A	C	H	A	I	R	S	S
C	A	N	E	T	R	R	S	R	I	Ⓢ	S	E	I	T
P	H	O	L	S	E	O	H	S	Ⓣ	C	L	H	Y	R
T	L	E	B	M	C	R	O	Ⓞ	I	L	S	T	T	O
D	A	A	A	Q	O	R	Ⓟ	S	R	E	T	A	I	L
A	C	C	T	P	R	I	U	M	S	D	R	E	R	L
I	C	E	C	E	D	M	U	I	N	O	I	L	A	E
D	E	G	E	S	S	B	D	A	S	N	H	A	H	R
E	S	A	L	T	L	N	H	G	E	A	S	M	C	S
M	S	M	L	A	A	D	N	C	S	T	S	P	O	M
I	O	M	O	H	N	I	I	T	B	I	K	E	S	O
T	R	U	C	O	R	P	F	D	B	O	O	K	S	V
L	I	R	C	R	S	A	E	C	I	N	U	E	S	I
U	E	E	A	O	R	S	T	O	Y	S	T	O	R	E
M	S	E	H	C	U	O	C	L	O	T	H	I	N	G

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Yesterday's Answer: Belief

To purchase **THE COLLECTED WONDERWORD, Volume 35, 36, 37 or 38**, call 1-800-642-6480. Order online at: wonderword.universaluclick.com. (Contains 43 puzzles.)

CLASSIFIED ADS

EMPLOYMENT

(1) Salesperson. Salary $5.55p/h. Call Hua Bie Enterprises at 287-7779.

---

(2) Fisherman, (1) Sales Representative. Minimum salary. Send resume to SMJ Corporation, P.O.Box 503944 Saipan MP 96950.

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Some conditions may apply

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- Swimming pool, tennis court, gated security, stand-by power, filtered water, etc.

SALE: 2-Bedroom, 1.5 Bath, 1,250 ft, partial ocean views, split-level, location has limited steps, furnished…$105,000.

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P: 670-483-9351 • **E:** tgoodwin@saipan.com

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- 19,969 sqm
- Great location for commercial or residential development
- Flat topography, utilities at site, paved road frontage on two sides
- Fee simple ownership available
- $250,000

Contact: Tim Goodwin, Pacific Rim International
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JOB OPENING

QUANTITY	CLASSIFICATION	SALARY RATE	Remarks
9	CE Engineering Technician	$6.00-7.50 per hour /1,300.00-2,200per month	Must be a college graduate with minimum of 2 years or more experience as Civil Engineering Tech.
2	ME Engineering Technician	$5.60-7.50 per hour /1,300.00 per month	Must be a college graduate with minimum of 2 years or more experience as a ME Tech.
8	H.E. Mechanic	$5.60-6.50 PER HOUR	Must be a high school graduate with minimum of 2 years or more experience as Heavy Equipment Mechanic
5	Architectural Drafter Tech	$5.60-8.25 PER HOUR	Must be a college graduate with minimum of 2 years or more experience as an Arch. Drafter Tech.
5	Accounting Technicians	$5.60-8.25 PER HOUR	Must be a college graduate with minimum of 2 years or more experience as an Accounting Tech.
2	General Maintenance	$5.60-6.05 PER HOUR	Must be a high school graduate with minimum of 2 years or more experience as General Maintenance.
3	Auto Body Repairer	$5.60-6.50 PER HOUR	Must be a high school graduate with minimum of 2 years or more experience as Auto Body repairer.
1	Housekeeper	$5.55-6.05 PER HOUR	Must be a high school graduate with minimum of 2 years or more experience as a Housekeeper
2	Electrician	$5.60-6.50 PER HOUR	Must be a high school graduate with minimum of 2 years or more experience as an Electrician
2	Power Crane Operator	$5.60-6.50 PER HOUR	Must be a high school graduate with minimum of 2 years or more experience as a Power Crane Operator
2	Construction Superintendent	$1,800 to 2,000.00/ month	Must be a college graduate with minimum of 2 years or more experience as a Construction Superintendent
2	Mason	$5.60-6.25 PER HOUR	Must be a high school graduate with minimum of 2 years or more experience as a Mason.

All positions close on October 22, 2013. Interested applicants may apply at GPPC, INC. office located at As Perdido, Saipan. A copy of police clearance must be attached to the application. Incomplete application will NOT be accepted. Skills testing maybe required. GPPC, INC is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

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Small 1-BR, 1-BTH. Unit approximately 284 sq.ft. **$250**/month.
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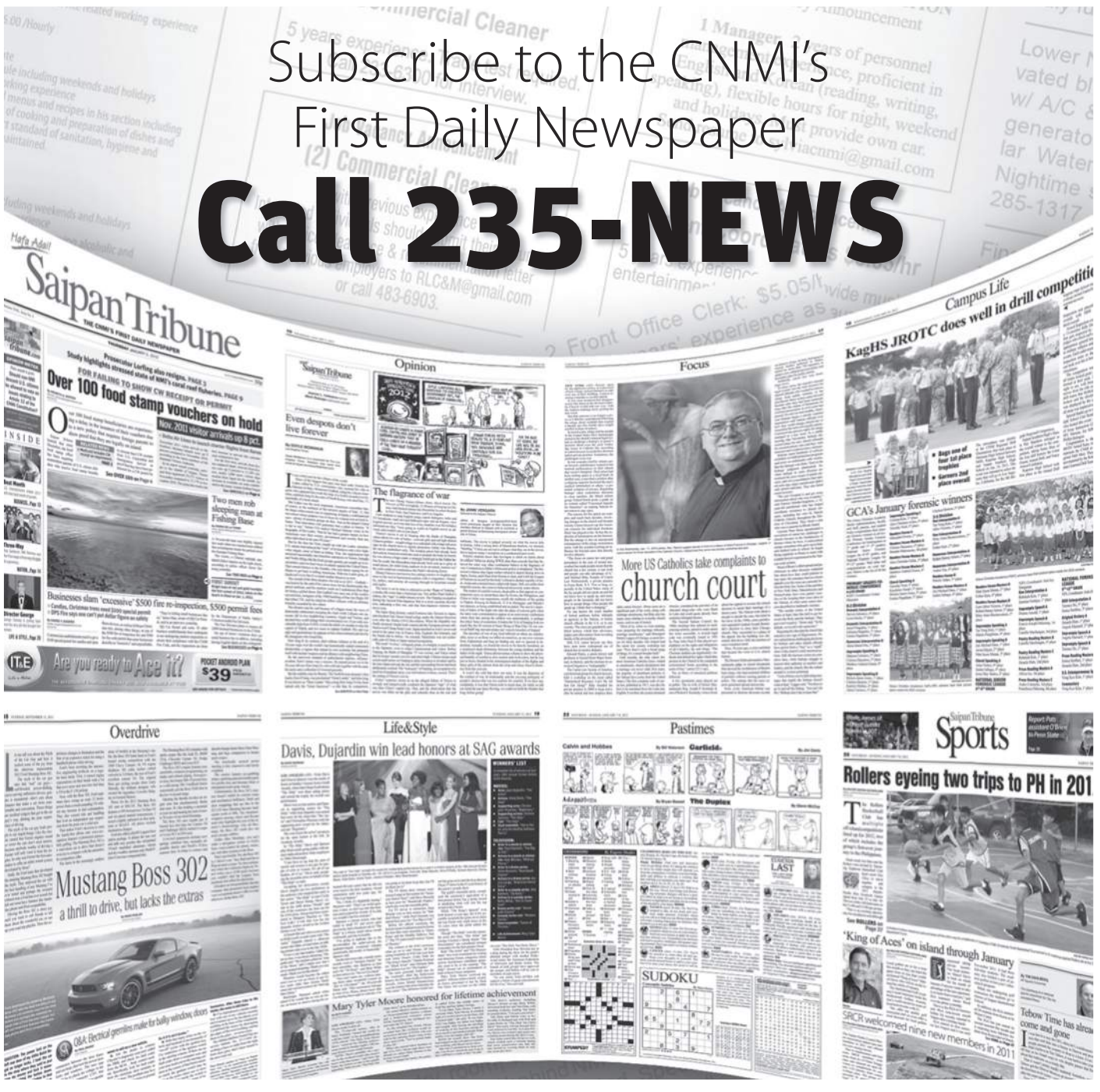
dba: **Kinpachi Restaurant**

Cook (3): Must be experienced & skilled in preparing Japanese cuisine including but not limited to sushi, sashimi, & tempura. Can prepare all menu items according to quantity menus. Must be able to maintain kitchen & observe safety & sanitary food handling practices as well as other related duties.

Additional Requirements: All applicants must be of good health and have a good moral character, must be able to follow grooming standards, must be able to obtain health certificate, must be able to provide current police clearance, with reliable transportation and must agree to drug test.

Applicants of positions listed above are required to have a minimum of 3-5 year experience. Applications can be picked up at Kinpachi Restaurant, MISA Bld. 1 Coral Tree Avenue, Garapan. Please no phone calls.

CLICK IT OR TICKET DAY & NIGHT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Businesses slam 'excessive' $500 fire re-inspection, $500 permit fees
Are you ready to Ace it?
Opinion
Even despots don't live forever
The flagrance of war
Focus
More US Catholics take complaints to church court
Campus Life
KagHS JROTC does well in drill competition
GCA's January forensic winners
Overdrive
Mustang Boss 302
a thrill to drive, but lacks the extras
Life&Style
Davis, Dujardin win lead honors at SAG awards
Mary Tyler Moore honored for lifetime achievement
Pastimes
SUDOKU
Sports
Rollers eyeing two trips to PH in 201
'King of Aces' on island through January

WHATZIT Solution: Round-the-World cruise

CLASSIFIEDS RATES AND POLICIES

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Saipan Tribune also offers a Super Saver Package—a complete 5-day run in both print and online editions, for as low as $30 for garage sales, apartment rentals, help wanted, auto and more. You can choose from any of the packages below.

ADS	(PRINT)	COMBO (PRINT AND ONLINE)
• 3-Liner	$15	$30
• 5-Liner	$24	$45

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Classified Ads

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

CANCELLATION

Classified Ads

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

REFUNDS

Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

CHECK YOUR ADS

Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

ADVERTISING POLICY

All advertising in the *Saipan Tribune* are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

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Cardinals one win away from World Series

Los Angeles Dodgers' Yasiel Puig is out at second as St. Louis Cardinals' Matt Carpenter turns a double play on a ball hit by Juan Uribe during the sixth inning of Game 4 of the National League baseball championship series Tuesday, Oct. 15, 2013, in Los Angeles.

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Thanks to two big swings and some excellent defense, the St. Louis Cardinals are one win from the World Series.

Just like last year.

Matt Holliday and pinch-hitter Shane Robinson connected for the first home runs of the NL championship series, sending St. Louis past the Los Angeles Dodgers 4-2 Tuesday night for a 3-1 lead in their best-of-seven playoff.

"We can't get ahead of ourselves," Holliday said.

In a series starved for offense, the Cardinals scored as many runs as they did in the first three games combined, when the teams totaled nine.

Game 5 is Wednesday afternoon at Dodger Stadium, with the Cardinals looking to clinch their 19th pennant. Zack Greinke is set to start for Los Angeles against Joe Kelly.

Of course, St. Louis had a 3-1 lead in last year's NLCS before dropping three straight to San Francisco, the eventual World Series champion.

"We don't feel this is over by any means," infielder Daniel Descalso said. "You don't want to have that feeling again, losing three games in a row when you're so close to getting there. Just because you're up 3-1, it doesn't mean anything. Nobody's going to roll over for you. We've got to keep pushing and keep grinding."

It was a painful defeat for the Dodgers - in more ways than one. Star shortstop Hanley Ramirez, playing with a broken left rib, left in the middle of the sixth after striking out three times.

"It felt worse than yesterday," Ramirez said. "It makes me angry."

Hitless in his previous 22 at-bats at Dodger Stadium, Holliday drove a two-run shot off Ricky Nolasco an estimated 426 feet to left field, capping a three-run third inning that gave the Cardinals a 3-0 lead.

"That's about as good as I can hit one," said Holliday, who was 0 for 13 in the series before connecting.

"I wasn't really doubting my swing at all. I felt actually really good with my at-bats. Sometimes in this game you don't always get the results that you want even if you feel like you're having good at-bats, so I just wanted to stay with it," he said.

Seeking a second World Series title in three years, St. Louis turned three important double plays and picked off a runner at second base in the seventh. Defensive standout Pete Kozma, inserted at shortstop in the sixth, started a difficult double play and darted in to complete the pickoff.

"A great heads-up play by him," Cardinals manager Mike Matheny said. "Then it has to be natural instincts and athleticism by (reliever) Carlos Martinez, and I don't know many guys pull that off. He has such athletic moves. He's quick in everything he does. Then to have the guts to wheel and let it fly like that in a game like we have right now, it's off the charts."

Second baseman Matt Carpenter also keyed St. Louis' sharp work with the gloves, one night after some sloppy play was costly in a 3-0 defeat.

Carpenter had an RBI double in the third that scored Descalso, who hit a leadoff single. Carpenter came around on Holliday's homer after there were none in the first three games for the first time in NLCS history.

Martinez pitched two scoreless innings to help nail down the win for starter Lance Lynn. Trevor Rosenthal got three outs for his second save in the series.

After a leadoff single by Andre Ethier in the ninth, Yasiel Puig grounded into a double play. Juan Uribe struck out to end it, leaving the Dodgers on the brink of elimination.

Now, they'll count on Greinke and ace Clayton Kershaw to pitch them back into the series.

"Kind of the best thought I have is, I've got one of the best pitchers in baseball pitching tomorrow," Mattingly said. "If we come out here and play well tomorrow and get a win, I've probably got the best pitcher in baseball pitching the next day."

Robinson's home run bounced off the top of the wall in left field on a 1-0 pitch from J.P. Howell with one out in the seventh, extending the Cardinals' lead to 4-2.

"For a little guy, he's got surprising power," Holliday said. "I mean, honestly, he's got some thump."

Lynn allowed two runs and six hits in 5 1-3 innings. He struck out five and walked three.

The right-hander lost his only other start this postseason, giving up five runs over 4 1-3 innings in Game 2 of the division series against Pittsburgh.

The Dodgers were down 4-2 in the seventh when Nick Punto doubled with one out. Martinez, however, picked off Punto before throwing another pitch and then retired Carl Crawford on an inning-ending groundout.

"It was a lonely place to be," Punto said.

Trailing 3-2, the Dodgers put the potential tying run on base in the sixth when Puig singled to chase Lynn. Uribe grounded into a double play against Seth Maness to end the inning.

The Dodgers stuck with Nolasco as their starter even though he hadn't pitched since Sept. 29. He struggled in his last three starts in September, giving up at least five earned runs in each.

Nolasco was passed over for his scheduled assignment in Game 4 of the division series, when the Dodgers used Kershaw on three days' rest for the first time in his career. Kershaw pitched well and took a no-decision in a 4-3 victory over Atlanta that clinched the series.

Before this one, Mattingly had said Nolasco was being put in a difficult position after not pitching for so long. Mattingly said Kershaw and Greinke both offered to start on short rest at Dodger Stadium.

Nolasco allowed three runs and three hits in four innings. He struck out four and walked one.

"I felt my stuff was good for the most part," he said. "Just that one pitch was the difference in the game."

Los Angeles scored twice in the fourth to cut it to 3-2. Adrian Gonzalez hit a leadoff double and scored on Puig's single. A.J. Ellis singled to drive in Andre Ethier, who walked.

But just when it appeared the Dodgers had grabbed the momentum, pinch-hitter Skip Schumaker bounced into an inning-ending double play.

Boston holds off Tigers behind Lackey, bullpen

DETROIT (AP)—Once again this October, one run was enough.

The Boston Red Sox scored it and now they lead an AL championship series that seemed to be slipping away last weekend.

John Lackey edged Justin Verlander in the latest duel of these pitching-rich playoffs, and Boston's bullpen shut down Detroit's big boppers with the game on the line to lift the Red Sox over the Tigers 1-0 Tuesday for a 2-1 advantage in the ALCS.

Mike Napoli homered off Verlander in the seventh inning, and Detroit's best chance to rally fell short in the eighth when Miguel Cabrera and Prince Fielder struck out with runners at the corners.

"This game had the feel it was going to be won or lost on one pitch," Boston reliever Craig Breslow said. "Lackey kept us in the game. Every inning where he was able to throw up a zero gave us a lift."

Despite three straight gems by their starters, the Tigers suddenly trail in a best-of-seven series they initially appeared to control. Game 4 is Wednesday night at Comerica Park, with Jake Peavy scheduled to start for the Red Sox against Doug Fister.

Peavy set the tone Tuesday during a pregame news conference, when he sounded miffed that so much of the attention was focused on Verlander before Game 3.

"It's been funny for me to watch all the coverage of the game coming in," Peavy said. "Almost like we didn't have a starter going today. Our starter is pretty good, too."

Lackey backed that up and then some.

He allowed four hits in 6 2-3 innings, striking out eight without a walk in a game that was delayed 17 minutes in the second inning because lights on the stadium towers went out.

"I think that little time off gave him a chance to slow down a little bit. He was excited and pumped that first inning," Boston catcher Jarrod Saltalamacchia said. "Kind of getting excited with his slider, throwing a little too hard and leaving it over the middle, but he was still pretty effective."

It was the second 1-0 game in this matchup between the highest-scoring teams in the majors. Dominant pitching has been a running theme throughout these playoffs, which have included four 1-0 scores and seven shutouts in the first 26 games.

"The runs are pretty stingy," Tigers manager Jim Leyland said. "This is what it's about in postseason, is good pitching."

After rallying from a five-run deficit to even the series in Game 2, Boston came away with a win in Detroit against one of the game's best pitchers. The Tigers had a chance for their own comeback in the eighth when Austin Jackson drew a one-out walk and Torii Hunter followed with a single.

But Cabrera, who failed to reach base for the first time in 32 postseason games for the Tigers, never looked comfortable against Junichi Tazawa, swinging and missing at the first two offerings and eventually chasing an outside pitch for strike three.

"To me, I (got) myself out. I was swinging at a lot of balls out of the strike zone," said Cabrera, who has been banged up for a couple of months but homered in Game 2. "When you swing at balls, you're not able to have success."

Fielder looked even more overmatched against Koji Uehara, striking out on three pitches.

Uehara also worked the ninth for a save, ensuring that Lackey's fine performance wouldn't go to waste.

Lackey pitched poorly his first two seasons in Boston after signing an $82.5 million, five-year contract in December 2009. Then he missed all of 2012 following elbow ligament-replacement surgery.

He's been better this season, and he kept the defending AL champions off balance Tuesday by effectively changing speeds.

"He just never gave in," Saltalamacchia said.

Napoli's first at-bat in the majors was against Verlander on May 4, 2006, at Comerica Park. He homered then, too.

"He's tough. He was on his game tonight. He was keeping all of us off balance," said Napoli, who rubbed his bat on teammate Jonny Gomes' beard before going up to the plate. "I got to a 3-2 count and put a good swing on a pitch, was able to drive it."

In the last two games, the Tigers have started Verlander and 21-game winner Max Scherzer - and the Red Sox won both.

Throw in Anibal Sanchez's outstanding effort in the opener, when the Red Sox managed only a ninth-inning single in a 1-0 loss, and Detroit's three starters in the ALCS have combined to allow two runs and six hits with 35 strikeouts in 21 innings.

Still, the Tigers have fallen behind because their bullpen blew a four-run lead late in Game 2 and the offense came up empty at home on Tuesday.

US stuns Panama in stoppage time, 3-2

PANAMA (AP)—Panama was about 90 seconds from beating the United States and advancing to a playoff against New Zealand for a World Cup berth.

The fans at Estadio Rommel Fernandez in Panama City were ready to start a nationwide celebration.

And then the Americans stunned not just an opponent, but an entire country.

Graham Zusi and Aron Johannsson scored in second-half stoppage time, and the United States rallied for a 3-2 win that left Mexico's World Cup hopes alive and knocked out the Panamanians.

"It shows you how brutal football can be. For one side that's almost there, and then the other side is back in," U.S. coach Jurgen Klinsmann said. "Now obviously you feel for the people. You feel for an entire country."

The U.S., which clinched a World Cup berth last month, didn't use most of its regular starters, and Gabriel Torres put Panama ahead in the 18th minute in a downpour. Michael Orozco tied it the 64th minute, just as Costa Rica took a 2-1 lead at home against Mexico.

Luis Tejada scored in the 83rd, putting Panama back into fourth place and the playoff berth. Mexico, which last missed the World Cup in 1990, would have been eliminated, and the Panamanians would have kept alive their chance to reach the World Cup for the first time.

Terrence Boyd of the U.S., right, embraces Panama's Felipe Baloy after the U.S. defeated Panama in a 2014 World Cup qualifying soccer match in Panama City, Tuesday, Oct. 15, 2013. The United States rallied for a 3-2 win at Panama on Tuesday night that left Mexico's World Cup hopes alive and knocked out the Panamanians.

But Zusi scored 1:24 into three minutes of stoppage time, and Johannsson added his first international goal at the 2:40 mark to seal the U.S. win and Panama's elimination. The Americans, who have lost just once in their last 16 games, finished with a record-tying 22 points in the hexagonal, the final round of the North and Central American and Caribbean region.

"This is just how football writes these crazy, emotional stories, and you're in the middle of it, because we all felt all of a sudden when Graham scored that header that it was all quiet, silence, and you feel for them," Klinsmann said. "Maybe it's a little bit in my culture, in the German culture you never stop before the referee blows the whistle, because I have won many, many games in the last minute. And hopefully, we keep on winning more. But it was a very sad moment for all here in Panama. We understand that."

It was a similar finish to four years ago, when Jonathan Bornstein's goal in the fifth minute of stoppage time at RFK Stadium in Washington, D.C., gave the U.S. a 2-2 tie against Costa Rica, clinching a World Cup berth to Honduras and knocking out the Costa Ricans.

The U.S. (7-2-1) and Costa Rica (5-2-3) already had clinched berths last month, and Honduras (4-3-3) earned the region's final automatic spot with a 2-2 tie at last-place Jamaica (0-5-5).

Mexico (2-3-5) finished fourth with 11 points, three ahead of Panama (1-4-5). Before allowing the stoppage-time goals, Panama was even with El Tri on points and goal difference and would have reached the playoff based on a 10-7 advantage in goals scored.

Having earned its seventh straight World Cup berth last month, the U.S. was without many of its regulars because of either injuries or decisions to allow them to return to their clubs. Among the missing were Landon Donovan, Clint Dempsey, Michael Bradley, Jermaine Jones, Tim Howard, Omar Gonzalez and Matt Besler.

In all, the Americans started just two players who began the clinching match against Mexico: defender Clarence Goodson and midfielder Alejandro Bedoya.

In the absence of Dempsey and Howard, Jozy Altidore captained the national team for the first time.

"It was an opportunity for us to see some players stepping in," Klinsmann said,

Panama got the early goal when Marcos Sanchez sent a layoff to the top of the penalty area, and Torres split the defenders and easily beat goalkeeper Brad Guzan with a one-timed shot to the corner.

England, Spain, Bosnia, Russia reach World Cup

England and defending champion Spain qualified for the World Cup on Tuesday night along with Russia and Bosnia-Herzegovina, which earned its first berth as an independent nation.

Chile and Ecuador earned the final two automatic spots from South America and Honduras got the final guaranteed slot from the North and Central American and Caribbean region, the 21st of 32 slots for the field in Brazil next June.

Less than two minutes from elimination, Mexico advanced to a playoff against Oceania when the United States scored twice in stoppage time for a 3-2 win at Panama that knocked out the hosts.

Wayne Rooney scored in the 41st minute and Steven Gerrard in the 88th to give England (6-0-4) a 2-0 win over Poland at London's Wembley Stadium and first place in Group H by one point over Ukraine (6-1-3). The Three Lions qualified for their 14th World Cup and fifth in a row.

"We have a great togetherness, are there for each other and proved we can perform under pressure," Gerrard said.

Spain (6-0-2) won Group I with a 2-0 victory over visiting Georgia on goals by Alvaro Negredo in the 26th minute and Juan Mata in the 61st. Iker Casillas returned to starting lineup for Spain after being replaced by Victor Valdes against Belarus last week. The Spanish, who have won three straight major tournaments, including the 2008 and 2012 European Championships, qualified for their 10th straight World Cup.

"It may look practically routine, but it's important to remember how successful we've been at qualifying," coach Vicente Del Bosque said. "This is not an easy competition."

France (5-1-2) was second and will be in the playoffs despite defeating visiting Finland 3-0 on goals by Franck Ribery and Karim Benzema around Joona Toivio's own goal.

Cristiano Ronaldo's Portugal, Greece, Ukraine, Romania and Iceland also finished second in their groups, winding up in Monday's draw for the eight-team European playoffs next month along with Sweden and Croatia. The four playoff winners also will earn berths.

With a population of just over 300,000, Iceland would be the smallest nation to qualify for a World Cup. Trinidad and Tobago, at about 1.3 million, was at the 2006 tournament in Germany.

The seedings for the playoffs will be determined by Thursday's FIFA rankings. Denmark (4-2-4) had the poorest record among the nine second-place teams and missed out on a playoff berth.

Bosnia (8-1-1) won 1-0 at Lithuania on Vedad Ibisevic's 68th-minute goal to win Group G on goal difference over Greece. Bosnia-Herzegovina gained independence from Yugoslavia in 1992. Almost 10,000 fans jumped, cried and screamed `Vamos Bosnia'—or `Go Bosnia'—when Ibisevic scored in Kaunas.

Fans headed to the airport after the game to wait for their team to arrive in the middle of the night and join the party.

Greece (8-1-1) defeated visiting Liechtenstein 2-0 as Dimitris Salpingidis scored in the seventh minute and Giorgos Karagounis added a goal in the 81st.

Russia (7-2-1) won Group F with a 1-1 tie at Azerbaijan as Roman Shirokov scored in the 15th. Portugal (6-1-3) finished a point back after defeating visiting Luxembourg 3-0 on goals by Silvestre Varela, Nani and Helder Postiga.

Italy, which already had clinched, tied Armenia 2-2 at Naples. Former Real Salt Lake forward Yura Movsisyan scored in the fourth minute for the visitors. Alessandro Florenzi and Mario Balotelli scored for the Azzurri, and Giueseppe Rossi entered in the 73rd minute for his first international appearance since Oct. 7, 2011. A 26-year-old forward who was born and lives in New Jersey, Rossi had been sidelined until last May by a knee injury late that October, which required three operations.

Sherman, Revis make lock-down cornerbacks an NFL must-have

NEW YORK (AP)—Darrell Green is not impressed.

The Hall of Famer looks around today's NFL and sees a lack of talent at his old job.

"When it is most needed, in my opinion, the cornerback position is probably producing at its lowest level," Green said. "Guys like myself and Deion Sanders and Mike Haynes—this is the time when we would be saying, `Yes! This is great! We want you to pass.'"

Seattle's Richard Sherman, Tampa Bay's Darrelle Revis and Denver's Champ Bailey think that way, too, making lock-down cornerbacks must-haves nowadays. With quarterbacks flinging the football around like never before, those back-end guys get more chances to flourish or fail. They define their teams' Ds.

Still, as Green points out, special ones are rare. Check the numbers: Through Week 6, QBs averaged a passer rating of 81 when targeting players covered by cornerbacks, higher than any season since at least 1995, according to STATS.

"This generation, they're behind the 8-ball, because these offenses and quarterbacks are incredible," said Green, who played for the Washington Redskins from 1983-2002. "Better cornerbacks would make defenses better."

Thanks to rules changes and offensive innovation, games are averaging 45.90 points in 2013, which would be the second-most in NFL history (the record is 46.48 in 1948). Games are averaging about 710 total net yards and slightly more than 490 yards passing, both on pace to break marks set in 2012. The 289 touchdown passes are the most through Week 6, an average of 3.14 per game that would be the highest in the Super Bowl era.

"If you keep getting that passing game going more and more, you're going to keep seeing how important it is to have good corners," Bailey said.

"I would say now you've got to have more than one," he said, "and that's the hard part."

Seattle pairs the 6-foot-3 Sherman with 6-foot-4 Brandon Browner.

"If you don't have good corners, it can be a long day," Sherman said, "regardless of what you're doing on offense or how your front seven is playing."

Used to be wideouts got a ton of attention: Randy Moss, Terrell Owens, Chad Ochocinco.

Now it's the diva DBs.

Sherman, for one, is "a vociferous guy," as his college teammate at Stanford, Colts quarterback Andrew Luck, put it. Sherman isn't shy about telling the world just how good he is - he engaged Revis in a Twitter spat over who's better - and the entire NFL notices what he says and how well he defends.

"The kid from Seattle's got a big mouth," Jets coach Rex Ryan said in a bit of takes-one-to-know-one commentary from a top defensive mind, "but he can play, you know?"

Ask Sherman to list top corners, and he'll mention Revis, New England's Aqib Talib, Cleveland's Joe Haden, Tennessee's Alterraun Verner, Arizona's Patrick Peterson.

"Elites," Sherman called them.

Ryan used to have Revis; he still has Antonio Cromartie.

"You can be more aggressive. You can play more man coverage - true lock-down, man coverage - if you're fortunate to have one like that. Some of the other ones, you've just got to play zone," Ryan said. "We want to attack you and we want to dictate. We don't want to ... just play zone or play scared."

Revis thinks the same way.

"I think a lot of DBs panic in this league, because the (receivers) get up on them and get on top of them," he said.

Tan Holdings Open kicks off tomorrow

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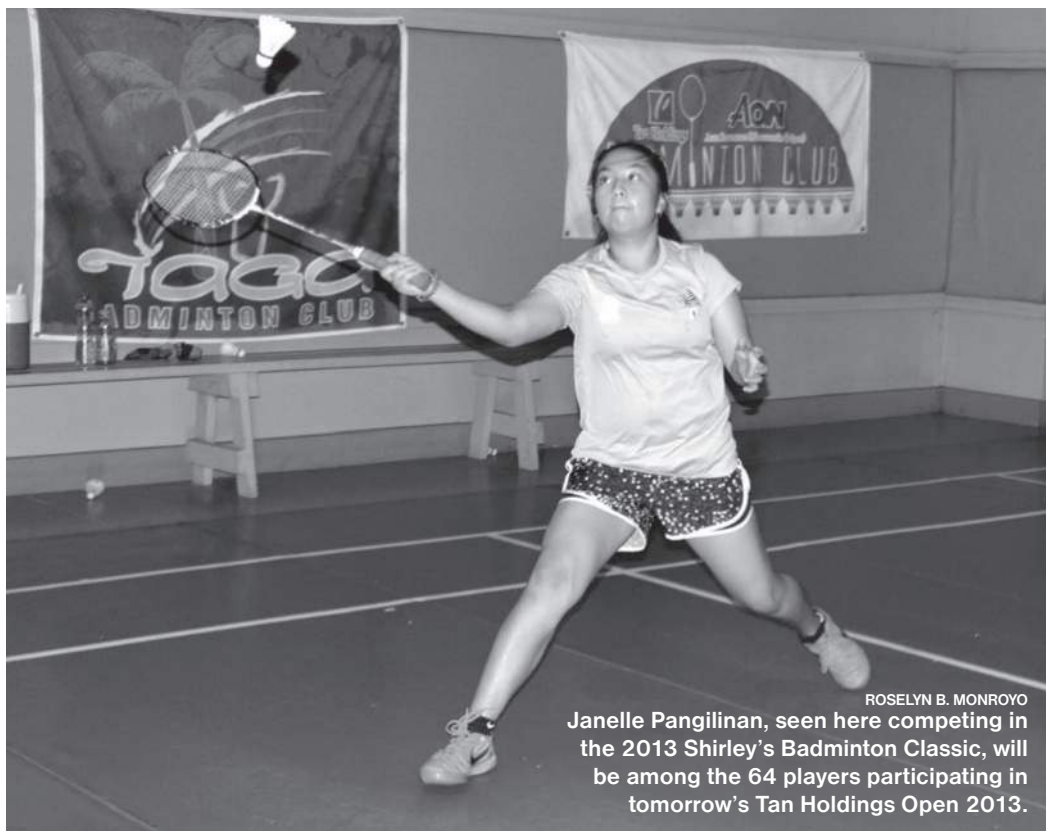

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Janelle Pangilinan, seen here competing in the 2013 Shirley's Badminton Classic, will be among the 64 players participating in tomorrow's Tan Holdings Open 2013.

The Tan Holdings Open 2013 will start its badminton doubles competition tomorrow at the TSL Sports Complex.

The annual tournament will have four divisions with the mixed doubles event drawing the most participants with 17 pairs. The women's doubles has 15 teams, while the men's doubles lures 13, and the new division—mixed 40-and-above—draws 8 pairs.

Leading the list of teams battling for the mixed 40A crown are Saipan Badminton Club's Joel Ortega and the Berks' Blazers Marlene Peraja. Completing the roster for the mixed 40A event of the tournament that allows players from different clubs to team up are husband and wife Jojo and Merlie Savellano, Vic Regis and Anna Omori, Edwin Montoya and Anna Alvarez, Ariel Mariano and Elna Curate, Panapa Peteru and Cristy Villaflor, Roger Vales and So Young, and Piao and Merlie Tolentino.

Two 40A games will kick off action in the Tan Holdings Open tomorrow with Piao and Tolentino colliding against the pair of Ortega and Pereja at 6:45pm on Court 1 and Regis and Omori facing the Savellanos on Court 3.

On Court 2, it will be the tandem of Deether Edralin and Dianne Francisco versus the duo of Kevin Park and Patricia Abantao in the mixed C doubles. Five other teams are entered in the mixed C doubles: Young Sang and Rowena Sison, A.J. Ortega and Nicole Malasarte, Peteru and Lanie Santos, Ariel Jinang and Judy Mendieta, and Patrick Fernandez and Jhoanna Olivos.

In the mixed doubles A, Ferdie Arago and Lani Santos will take on Andreau Galvez and Curate on Court 3 at 7:30pm. Battling the mixed doubles A crown against the two pairs are Glenn Bluutjens and Alma Ortega, Sam Jones and Malou Malasarte, and Ezekiel Macario and Jen Savellano.

In the mixed doubles B, which will not start until Sunday, only four pairs will duke it out for the championship. The list includes siblings Jordan and Janelle Pangilinan, J.P. Nopia and Havika Farro, Chris Hilario and Windy Fernandez, and Vales and Shirley Kim.

In the men's doubles B, two matches will be played in the opening day with Montoya and Alvin Alvarez meeting Edralin and Nopia on Court 2 at 9:5pm and Joel Ortega and Savellano squaring off against Piao and Jerry Tan at 9pm on Court 1. Others entered in the men's doubles B are Jordan Pangilinan and Ezekiel Macario, and Hilario and Aries Cordero.

In the women's doubles B, three games are set for Day 1 and all will take place at 8:15pm. Marlyn Montano and Loyda Ito will take on Ortega and Francisco on Court 1, Lucella Lampera and Cheng Saturno will battle Mykki Caracut and Farro on Court 2, and Toshiko Obata and Windy Fernandez will challenge Villaflor and Santos on Court 3.

In the women's doubles, only one match is scheduled for tomorrow with Ito and Alvarez dueling Lani Bartolome and Obata. Malou Malasarte and Peraja and Omori and So Young are also competing in this division.

In the men's doubles A, only three pairs are entered and games will not start until this Sunday. Bluutjens and Jones are still partnering for this event and will be up against the tandems of Galvez and Caranto and Macoi Aguda and Arago.

This year's Tan Holdings Open will only be played for two weekends and will have a double-elimination format.

Golden State Warriors beat Kobe-less Lakers

BEIJING (AP)— David Lee scored 31 points and grabbed six rebounds to lead the Golden State Warriors to a 100-95 preseason win over a Kobe Bryant-less Los Angeles Lakers on Tuesday in China.

Stephen Curry added 24 points for the Warriors, while Andrew Bogut had 14 rebounds and nine points. Lee finished 12 of 16 from the field.

''The way it's supposed to work is that we can get some stuff on the inside early in the game and that will open up the outside for guys like Steph to shoot 3s as the game goes on,'' the center said.

Nick Young led the Lakers with 18 points. Pau Gasol had 15 points and Chris Kaman scored 14 with 10 rebounds.

Although Bryant made the trip to China, he's sitting out the games to nurse a torn Achilles tendon and an ailing right knee. He was clearly missed by the Chinese fans, who chanted his name throughout the game.

Gasol said the Lakers faded defensively in the third quarter without their star.

''We don't know when Kobe's going to get back,'' Gasol said. ''But until that point we just have to play hard as a team as we've been doing, and making sure we can't wait for him to get back and everything to fall into place at that point.''

The Lakers play a second exhibition game in Shanghai on Friday.

The Warriors trailed 11 points at the end of the third quarter, but tied the score at 84 with just over seven minutes remaining on a 3-pointer by Curry and never trailed again.

Golden State coach Mark Jackson said Curry has been healthy the entire offseason.

''I thought tonight for the first time in a long time he had a rhythm and he was the best player on the floor,'' Jackson said. ''It was great to see and we expect tremendous (things) from him throughout the course of this season.''

Curry said the team played ''probably our best half in the second half all preseason.''

In New York, one of the greats to wear green, Paul Pierce found it strange playing for the other side.

''It was a little weird looking over and seeing all the green uniforms,'' he said of his first game against the Boston Celtics. ''I'm used to lining up in the green and white for so long.''

Pierce made just one basket but grabbed 10 rebounds and added five assists to help the Brooklyn Nets beat the Celtics 82-80 on Tuesday night in the first matchup between the teams since a blockbuster trade on draft night.

Brook Lopez scored 20 points and Andrey Blatche had 14 starting in place of Kevin Garnett for the Nets, who won it when Chris Johnson made two free throws with 7.0 seconds left after the game was tied at 80.

Pierce finished 1 of 6, his only basket a driving layup with 6.2 seconds left in the first half in the first meeting between the teams since the deal that sent Pierce and Garnett to Brooklyn.

Coach Jason Kidd told Pierce to treat it like a green and white scrimmage—and the white pulled it out.

JERICHO

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picked in the second round. He was among the only 58 out of the 111 amateur players, who are mostly from UAAP and the National Collegiate Athletic Association member schools, drafted by the 14 participating teams.

"I don't really care if I was picked first or last in any round as long as I sign with any team. And that's what happened, Blackwater signed me up," Cruz said.

Blackwater won the Foundation Cup after sweeping the NLEX Warriors in a best-of-three finals series in June this year. The team is now in Cebu for a series of tune-up games.

Getting the chance to play in the PBA D-League is another welcome development on the six-foot shooting guard's blossoming basketball career in the Philippines. Earlier this month, Cruz was among the 19 players Samahang Basketbol ng Pilipinas (SBP) invited to join the national training pool for the 27th Southeast Asian Games.

Only 12 players from the pool will be selected to don the PH colors in the SEA Games that will be held in Myanmar this December. Philippine Team head coach Jong Uichico and assistants Nash Racela and Josh Reyes will announce the Final 12 before the end of this month.

Cruz was among the collegiate players considered for the PH Team after leading Adamson in scoring in the recent UAAP season. The Falcons shooting guard averaged 14.5 points in his sophomore season.

CASTRO

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201, and 204) and closed out with a 188 in Game 4 to collect 814 pinfalls, 13 more than Day 1 leader and three-time winner Robert Talavera.

Talavera slid to second with his 801 pinfalls, as he only knocked down more than 200 pins in two games (203 in Game 2 and 244 in Game 3). The March, April, and July King of the Lanes started the two-day roll-off last Saturday with a 177 in Game 1 and then finished Day 1 with 183 pinfalls in Game 4 to average 200.25. Talavera came back to SBC for the second day of the event, but his 766 (201, 235, 172, and 158) was only good for fourth place.

Bowlers can join both days of the tournament, but only the higher score is counted.

Joining Castro and Talavera in the Top 3 was youth bowler Raphael Zapanta, who earned 799 pinfalls. Zapanta logged 200-plus pinfalls on three occasions (221, 202, 220), but his 156 in Game 2 cost him the October plum. Only Talavera and Castro averaged at least 200 pinfalls in the October tournament, as the eventual winner posted 203.50, while Zapanta registered 199.75.

With the victory, Castro now qualifies for the SBA/Budweiser King of the Lanes Tournament, which he has never won. The season-ending competition gathers all 12 monthly winners and other qualifiers and will be held in January next year. Other early qualifiers were Raymond Zapanta, Simon Manacop, Paul Pangelinan, and Percy Omechelang.

Meanwhile, 25 other bowlers joined the October roll-offs with Omechelang placing fourth with his 762 pinfalls. Omechelang nailed 194, 175, and 193 in the first three games and saved his best for last, notching 200 in Game 4. Ronald Batac rounded out the Top 5 after collecting 754 pinfalls. He started strong with 222 pinfalls and was still on a rhythm in Game 2 (199) before struggling in the last two games with 166 and 171 pinfalls.

Completing the Top 10 were Yong Woon Lee (745), Ramir De Leon (742), Raymond Zapanta (741), Ariel Dumapit (740), and Manacop (737).

ISLAND

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fourth canto. Only Junar Guiab connected on more than one fiel goal for KIxx in the payoff frame, as Jorge De Guzman, who finished the third with 20 markers, was held to 3 points.

While De Guzman played flat in the fourth quarter, Iglecias stepped up, as he scored 5 of Chinatown's first 7 points before adding two free throws to his credit in the closing seconds. Pete Lizama and Rodney Sacramento also helped Chinatown's cause, chipping in 4 points apiece in the final canto.

A fourth-quarter push also lifted Island Manpower to its first win of the season after bowing to Island Floral early this month.

Down by a hair after the third canto, 50-51, Ivan Devero turned the deficit to the 8-point win after scoring four straight baskets past the halfway mark of the fourth frame. Bernard Montano and Francis Rebuyon also contributed to the fourth-quarter rally, adding 5 and 4 points, respectively.

San Roque drew baskets from multiple players in the fourth quarter, but none of them made more than one field goal, as the team was outgunned in the last 10 minutes of play, 12-21. San Roque dropped to a 1-1 slate despite controlling majority of the match. The Bandits went up by 5 after the first canto, 18-13, as four of its players drilled at least two field goals apiece.

San Roque kept the advantage at the break, 33-29, behind Jun Alipio, who logged 9 of his 20 points in the second canto. Alipio added 7 more markers in the third period, as San Roque hung on to a precarious one-point lead, which it eventually lost, as no one stepped up for the Bandits and exchanged blows with Devero in the fourth canto.

First Game

Island Manpower 71 – Devero 29, Esteves 12, Capuyon Jr. 5, Montano 5, Rebuyon 4, Capuyon Sr. Gonzales 2, Espinosa 2.

San Roque 63 – Alipio 20, Odicta 10, Gapor 8, Pineda 8, Salazar 7, Guiang 5, Achas 3.

Scoring by quarters: 12-18, 29-3, 50-51, 71-53.

Second Game

Chinatown 73 – Zapanta 20, Sacramento 15, Iglecias 12, Lizama 11, Kwon 7, Helmey 2, Lapuz 2.

Kixx Engine Oil 69 – Guiab 25, De Guzman 23, Tibayan 11, Pangelinan 3, Patawaran 2, Tengco 2.

Scoring by quarters: 16-16, 35-32, 54-59, 73-69.

Bikers Witness Signing of Public Law 18-24

CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS

Bikers pose for a photo while waiting for Gov.Eloy Inos' signing of Public Law 18-24, which requires motorists to maintain at least three feet of space when passing bicyclists or until there is enough room to pass safely, last Saturday at the Sabalu Market.

Gov. Eloy Inos talks to reporters.

Father Ryan Jimenez, third left, joins female bikers for a group photo.

Northern Mariana Islands Cycling Federation president Vince Seman, fifth from left, poses with fellow bikers and other supporters of the law.

Police officers get ready to escort bikers from the Garapan Fishing Base to the Sabalu Market in Susupe.

Bikers pedal along Beach Road on their way to Susupe.

Bikers pose with Gov. Eloy Inos, second right, and Lt. Gov. Jude Hofschneider, seventh from left.

Youth biker Erico Castro, left, poses with Gov. Eloy Inos.

Four DFS Saipan employees/bikers show up at Sabalu Market to witness the signing of the law.

Saipan Tribune
Sports

Jericho inches closer to pro league stint

By JON PEREZ
SPECIAL TO THE SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Former CNMI National Team player Jericho Cruz moved closer to achieving his dream of making it to the professional league after he was drafted to play in the upcoming PBA Developmental League Aspirant's Cup.

Cruz, who wishes to see action in Asia's first pro league, the Philippine Basketball Association, was among the collegiate players Blackwater Sports Elite picked in the draft held last month. The Adamson University stalwart was selected third in the second round by the reigning Foundation Cup champion.

The former Marianas High School standout said he is ready to show his wares in the D-League season that will start next week despite a roller-coaster campaign while playing for the Soaring Falcons in the 76th University Athletic Association of the Philippines (UAAP).

"I feel great that I was drafted. I feel blessed and excited to play with a champion team," said Cruz a few days after signing up with Blackwater Sports Elite.

Cruz added that he doesn't mind being

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CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Jericho Cruz, seen here driving against two Arellano University defenders in a game in a local league in the Philippines early this year, will be playing in the PBA Developmental League starting next week.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
October King of the Lanes Alex Castro is flanked by runners-up Robert Talavera, left, and Percy Omechelang during the awards ceremony last Sunday at the Saipan Bowling Center.

Castro gets first win in SBA/Budweiser roll-offs

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Perfect gamer Alex Castro broke his nine-month silence after ruling the October Saipan Bowling Association/Budweiser King of the Lanes Tournament.

Castro, who joined CNMI's "300 Club" on Jan. 15, 2011, had a rough 2013 season, missing top honors in the first nine months of the competition before winning the October roll-offs last Sunday at the Saipan Bowling Center. He recorded 200-plus pinfalls in the first three games (221,

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Island Manpower, Chinatown edge foes

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Games in the 2nd DL Corp. Invitational Basketball League resumed last Monday night with Island Manpower and the Chinatown Saints outlasting separate opponents at the Gualo Rai Basketball Court.

Island Manpower pulled off a come-from-behind 71-63 victory over the San Roque Bandits to make it to the win column in Pool B of the league that was missing in action for more than a week due to the inclement weather. In the second game, Chinatown faced Kixx Engine Oil and eked out a 73-69 win, also the former's first after losing to defending champion Adobo in the opener and tying Saipan Ice (56-all) in a rain-suspended match on Oct. 8.

Chinatown escaped with the 4-point win after drilling crucial free throws in the homestretch. Justin Zapanta scored the Saints ' last four points and all came from the foul line, while Vince Iglecias added two charities.

Kixx fell to a 0-2 record after squandering a 5-point lead at the end of the third period and nailing only four field goals and 10 points in the

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ROSELYN B. MONROYO
The Chinatown Saints' Justin Zapanta, seen here going up for a shot againts Adobo's Emerson Feria during the opening game in the DL Corp. caging late last month at the Gualo Rai Basketball Court, hit clutch free throws in their 73-69 win over Kixx Engine Oil last Monday.